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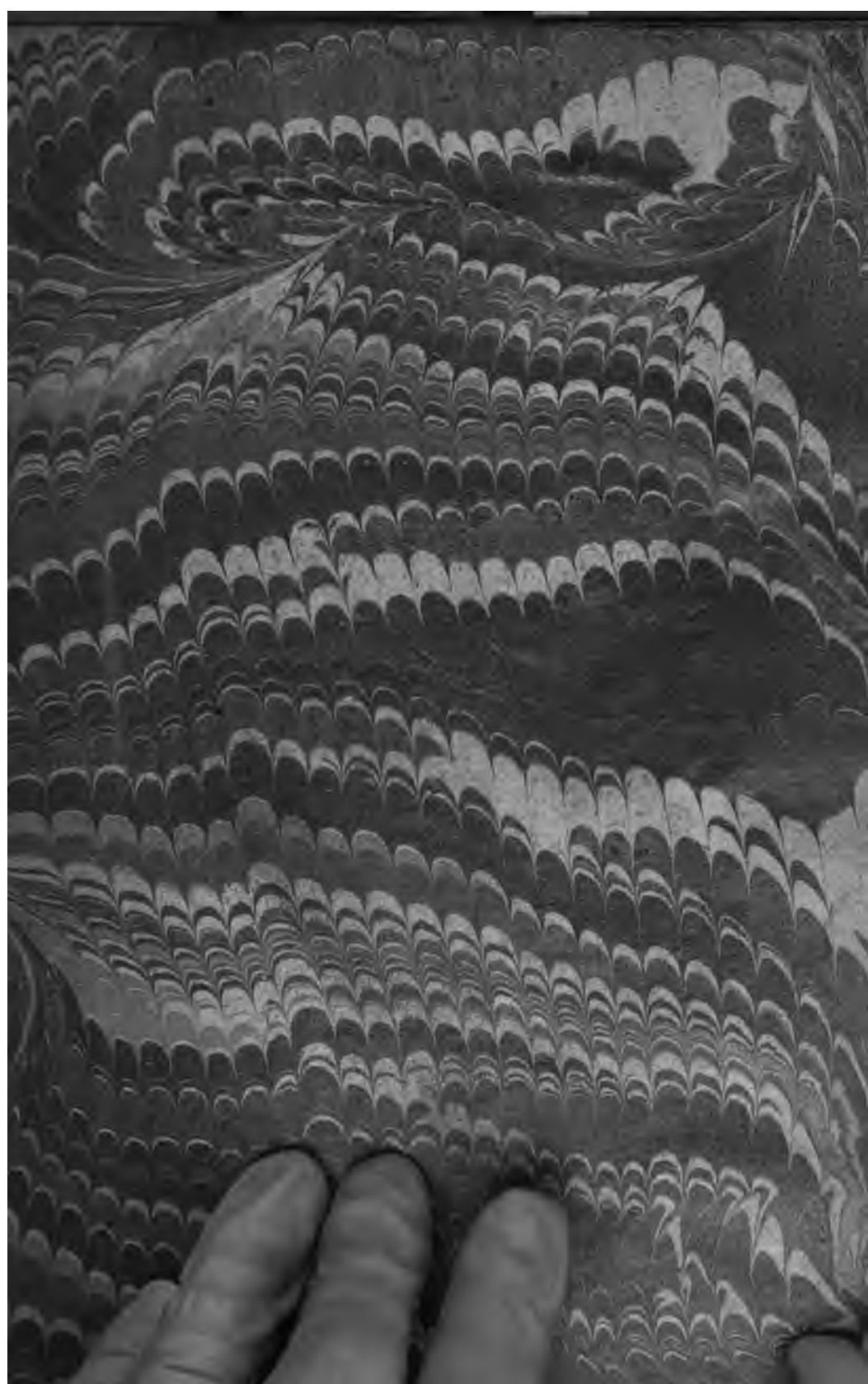
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AN
ABSTRACT
Of Part of the
HISTORY
OF THE
OLD TESTAMENT,

Beginning at the



Book of JOSHUA.

James Browne

VOL. II.

Dan. ii. 20, 21. *Blessed be the Name of God for ever and ever: for Wisdom and Might are his.*

And he changeth the Times and the Seasons: he removeth Kings, and setteth up Kings.

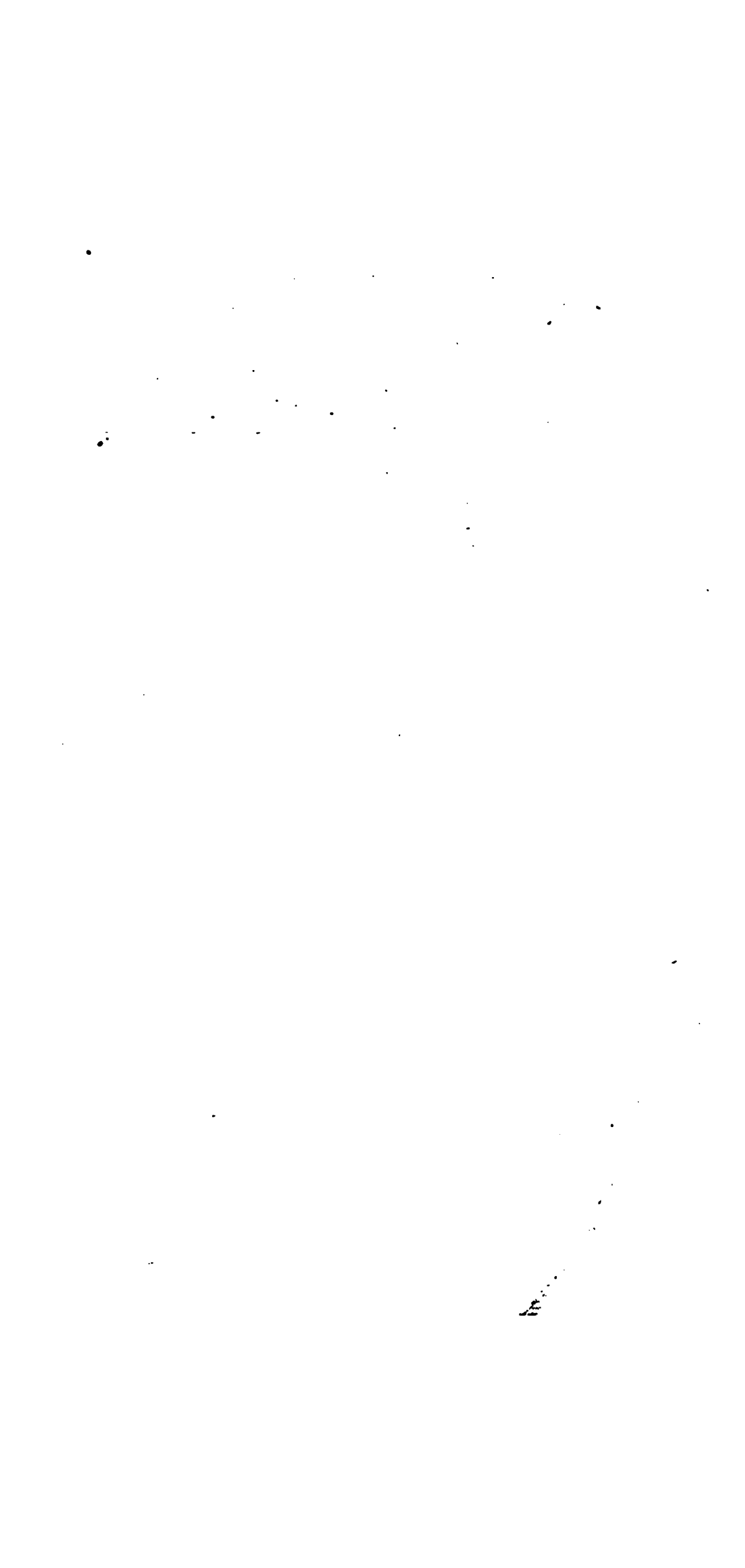
Job xii. 19. 21. 23. *He leadeth Princes away spoiled, and overthroweth the Mighty.*

He poureth Contempt upon Princes, and weakeneth the Strength of the Mighty.

He encreaseth the Nations and destroyeth them: he enlargeth the Nations and straiteneth them again.

LONDON,
Printed by W. BOWTER, MDCCXXX.

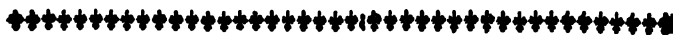
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289

A N
A B S T R A C T
Of the B o o k of
J O S H U A.



C H A P. I.

1 The LORD appointeth Joshua to succeed Moses. 3 The Borders of the promised Land. 5 God promiseth to assist Joshua: 8 He giveth him Instructions.

Ver. 1



OW after the Death of Moses the
Servant of the LORD, it came to pass,
that the LORD spake unto Joshua the
Son of Nun, Moses's Minister, say-
ing,
2 Moses my Servant is dead; now
therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this
People, unto the Land which I do give to them, even to
the Children of Israel.

P p

Every





11 And as soon as we had heard these Things, our Hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more Courage in any Man, because of you : for the LORD your God, he is God in Heaven above, and in the Earth beneath :

12 Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you Kindness, that ye will also shew Kindness unto my Father's House ; and give me a true Token :

13 And that ye will save alive my FATHER, and my MOTHER, and my BRETHREN, and my SISTERS, and all that they have, and deliver our Lives from Death.

14 And the Men answered her, Our Life for yours, if ye utter not this our Business. And it shall be when the LORD hath given us the Land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

15 Then she let them down by a Cord through the Window : for her House was upon the Town-wall, and she dwelt upon the Wall.

16 And she said unto them, Get you to the Mountain, lest the Pursuers meet you ; and hide yourselves there three Days, until the Pursuers be returned : and afterward may ye go your way.

17 And the Men said unto her, We will be blameless of this thine Oath which thou hast made us swear.

18 Behold, when we come into the Land, thou shalt bind this Line of scarlet Thread in the Window which thou didst let us down by : and thou shalt bring thy Father, and thy Mother, and thy Brethren, and all thy Father's Household home unto thee.

19 And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the Doors of thy House into the Street, his Blood shall be upon his Head, and we will be guiltless : and whosoever shall be with thee in the House, his Blood shall be on our Head, if any Hand be upon him.

20 And if thou utter this our Business, then we will be quit of thine Oath which thou hast made us to swear.

21 And she said, According to your Words, so be it. And she sent them away, and they departed : and she bound the scarlet Line in the Window.

22 And they went, and came unto the Mountain, and abode there three Days, until the Pursuers were returned. And the Pursuers sought them throughout all the Way, but found them not,

23 So the two Men returned, and descended from the Mountain, and passed over, and came to Joshua, and told him all Things that besel them ;

24 And they said unto Joshua, Truly the LORD hath delivered into our Hands all the Land ; for even all the Inhabitants of the Country do FAINT because of us.

C H A P. III.

1 *Joshua cometh to Jordan.* 7 *The LORD encourageth Joshua.*
9 *Joshua encourageth the People.* 14 *Jordan divided.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND Joshua rose early in the Morning, and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the Children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.

2 And it came to pass after three Days, that the Officers went through the Host ;

3 And they commanded the People, saying, When ye see the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD your GOD, and the Priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your Place, and go after it.

4 Yet there shall be a Space between you and it, about two thousand Cubits by Measure : come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go : for ye have not passed this way heretofore.

5 And Joshua said unto the People, Sanctify yourselves : for To-morrow the LORD will do WONDERS among you.

6 And Joshua spake unto the Priests, saying, Take up the Ark of the Covenant, and pass over before the People. And they took up the Ark of the Covenant, and went before the People.

7 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This Day will I begin to MAGNIFY thee in the Sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.

8 And thou shalt command the Priests that bear the Ark of the Covenant, saying, When ye are come to the Brink of the Waters of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.

9 And Joshua said unto the Children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the Words of the LORD your GOD.

10 And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the LIVING GOD is among you, and that he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, &c.

11 Behold,

11 Behold, the ARK of the COVENANT of the LORD of all the Earth, passeth over before you into Jordan.

12 Now therefore take ye twelve Men out of the Tribes of Israel, out of every Tribe a Man.

13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the Soles of the Feet of the Priests that bear the Ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the Earth, shall rest in the Waters of Jordan, that the Waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the Waters that come down from above: and they shall stand upon an Heap.

14 And it came to pass when the People removed from their Tents, to pass over Jordan, and the Priests bearing the Ark of the Covenant before the People;

15 And as they that bare the Ark were come unto Jordan, and the Feet of the Priests that bare the Ark were dipped in the Brim of the Water (for Jordan overfloweth all his Banks all the time of Harvest.)

16 That the Waters which came down from above, stood and rose up upon an Heap very far from the City Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the Sea of the Plain, even the Salt-sea, failed, and were cut off: and the People passed over right against Jericho.

17 And the Priests that bare the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry Ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry Ground, until all the People were passed clean over Jordan.

¹ Psal. cxiv. 1 When Israel went out of Egypt, the House of Jacob from a People of strange Language;

² Judah was his Sanctuary, and Israel his Dominion.

³ The SEA saw it, and FLED; JORDAN WAS DRIVEN BACK.

⁴ The Mountains skipped like Rams, and the little Hills like Lambs.

⁵ What ailed thee, O thou SEA, that thou fleddest? thou JORDAN, that thou wast driven back?

7 TREMBLE thou Earth at the PRESENCE of the LORD, at the PRESENCE of the God of Jacob.

C H A P. IV.

1 Twelve Stones taken for a Memorial out of Jordan: 9 Twelve other Stones set up in the midst thereof. 10 The People pass over. 14 God magnifieth Joshua.

Ver. 9 JOSHUA set up twelve Stones in the midst of Jordan.

10 For

10 For the Priests which bare the Ark, stood in the midst of Jordan, until every thing was finished that the LORD commanded Joshua to speak unto the People, according to all that Moses commanded Joshua : and the People halted and passed over.

11 And it came to pass when all the People were clean passed over, that the Ark of the LORD passed over, and the Priests in the presence of the People.

12 And the Children of Reuben, and the Children of Gad, and half the Tribe of Manasseh, passed over armed before the Children of Israel, as Moses spake unto them :

13 About forty thousand prepared for War, passed over before the LORD unto Battle, to the Plains of Jericho.

14 On that Day the LORD MAGNIFIED Joshua in the sight of all Israel, and they feared him as they feared Moses, all the Days of his Life.

15 And it came to pass when the Priests that bare the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD, were come up out of the mids of Jordan, and the Soles of the Priests Feet were lift up unto the dry Land, that the Waters of Jordan returned unto their Place, and flowed over all his Banks, as they did before.

19 And the People came up out of Jordan on the tenth Day of the first Month, and encamped in Gilgal, in the East Border of Jericho.

20 And those twelve Stones which they took out of Jordan, did Joshua pitch in Gilgal.

21 And he spake unto the Children of Israel, saying, When your Children shall ask their Fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these Stones.

22 Then ye shall let your Children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry Land.

23 For the LORD your GOD dried up the Waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your GOD did to the Red Sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over.

24 That ALL the PEOPLE of the EARTH might KNOW the HAND of the LORD, that it is MIGHTY : that ye might FEAR the LORD your GOD for EVER.

C H A P. V.

- 1 *The Canaanites are afraid.* 2 *Circumcision is renewed.*
 10 *The Passover is kept at Gilgal.* 12 *Manna ceaseth.*
 13 *An Angel appeareth to Joshua.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass when all the Kings of the Amorites, which were on the Side of Jordan West-ward, and all the Kings of the Canaanites, which were by the Sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the Waters of Jordan from before the Children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their Heart melted; neither was there Spirit in them any more, because of the Children of Israel.

2 At that Time the LORD said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp Knives, and circumcise again the Children of Israel the second time.

4 And this is the Cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the People that came out of Egypt, that were Males, even all the Men of War died in the Wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt.

5 Now all the People that came out, were circumcised; but all the People that were born in the Wilderness, by the way, as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised.

6 For the Children of Israel walked forty Years in the Wilderness, till all the People that were Men of War, which came out of Egypt were CONSUMED, because they OBEYED NOT the VOICE of the LORD: unto whom the LORD sware that he would not shew them the Land which the LORD sware unto their Fathers that he would give us, a Land that floweth with Milk and Honey.

7 And their Children whom he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised.

8 And it came to pass when they had done circumcising all the People, that they abode in their Places in the Camp, till they were whole.

9 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This Day have I rolled away the Reproach of Egypt from off you: wherefore the Name of the Place is called Gilgal unto this Day.

10 And the Children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth Day of the Month at Even, in the Plains of Jericho.

11 And

11 And they did eat of the old Corn of the Land on the Morrow after the Passover, unleavened Cakes, and parched Corn in the self-same Day.

12 And the MANNA CEASED on the Morrow after they had eaten of the old Corn of the Land, neither had the Children of Israel MANNA any more, but they did eat of the Fruit of the Land of Canaan that Year.

13 And it came to pass when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lift up his Eyes and looked, and behold, there stood a Man over against him, with his Sword drawn in his Hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our Adversaries?

14 * And he said, Nay, but as CAPTAIN of the HOST of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his Face to the Earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What faith my LORD unto his Servant!

15 And the CAPTAIN of the LORD's HOST said unto Joshua, Loose thy Shoe from off thy Foot, for the Place whereon thou standest, is HOLY: and Joshua did so.

15 And his Feet like unto * fine Brass, as if they burned in a Furnace; and his Voice as the Sound of many Waters.

16 And he had in his Right Hand seven Stars: and out of his Mouth went a sharp two edged Sword: and his COUNTENANCE was as the SUN shineth in his Strength.

17 And when I saw him, I fell at his Feet as dead: and he laid his Right Hand upon me, saying unto me, FEAR NOT; I am the FIRST and the LAST.

18 I am he that LIVETH, and WAS DEAD; and behold, I AM ALIVE for EVERMORE, Amen; and have the Keys of Hell and of Death.

* Rev. i. 10 I was in the SPIRIT on the LORD'S-DAY, and heard behind me a great Voice, as of a Trumpet,

11 Saying, I am ALPHA, and OMEGA, the FIRST and the LAST: and, What thou seest, write in a Book, and send it unto the seven Churches which are in Asia.

12 And I turned to see the Voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw

13 One like unto the SON OF MAN clothed with a Garment down to the Foot, and girt about the Paps with a golden Girdle.

14 His Head and his Hairs were white like Wool, as white as Snow; and his Eyes were as a Flame of Fire;

CHAPTER VI.

1 Jericho is shut up: 20 The Walls fall down. 22 Rahab is saved, 26 and the Builder thereof cursed.

Ver. 1 **N**OW Jericho was straitly shut up, because of the Children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.

* or, Amber.

Q q

2 And

2 And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine Hand Jericho, and the King thereof, and the mighty Men of Valour.

3 And ye shall compass the City, all ye Men of War, and go round about the City once : thus shalt thou do six Days.

4 And seven Priests shall bear before the Ark seven Trumpets of Rams Horns : and the seventh Day ye shall compass the City seven times, and the Priests shall blow with the Trumpets.

5 And it shall come to pass that when they make a long Blast with the Ram's Horn, and when ye hear the Sound of the Trumpet, all the People shall shout with a great Shout : and the Wall of the City shall fall down flat, and the People shall ascend up every Man straight before him.

6 And Joshua called the Priests, and said unto them, Take up the ARK of the Covenant, and let seven Priests bear seven Trumpets of Rams Horns before the Ark of the LORD.

7 And he said unto the People, Pass on, and compass the City, and let him that is armed pass on before the Ark of the LORD.

8 And it came to pass when Joshua had spoken unto the People, that the seven Priests bearing the seven Trumpets of Rams Horns, passed on before the LORD, and blew with the Trumpets : and the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD followed them.

9 And the armed Men went before the Priests that blew with the Trumpets, and the Rereward came after the Ark, the Priests going on, and blowing with the Trumpets.

10 And Joshua had commanded the People, saying, Ye shall not shout nor make any Noise with your Voice, neither shall any Word proceed out of your Mouth, until the Day I bid ye shout, then shall ye shout.

11 So the ARK of the LORD compassed the City, going about it once : and they came into the Camp, and lodged in the Camp.

12 And Joshua rose early in the Morning, and the Priests took up the ARK of the LORD.

13 And seven Priests bearing seven Trumpets of Rams Horns before the Ark of the LORD, went on continually, and blew with the Trumpets : and the armed Men went before them, but the Rereward came after the Ark of the LORD, the Priests going on, and blowing with the Trumpets.

14 And

14 And the second Day they compassed the City once, and returned into the Camp : so they did six Days.

15 And it came to pass on the seventh Day, that they rose early about the Dawning of the Day, and compassed the City after the same manner, seven times : only on that Day they compassed the City seven times.

16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the Priests blew with the Trumpets, Joshua said unto the People, Shout, for the LORD hath given you the City.

17 And the City shall be accursed, even it and all that are therein, to the LORD : only Rahab the Harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the House, because she hid the Messengers that we sent.

18 And you in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed Thing, lest you make yourselves accursed when ye take of the accursed Thing, and make the Camp of Israel a Curse, and trouble it.

19 But all the Silver and Gold, and Vessels of Brass and Iron, are consecrated unto the LORD : they shall come into the Treasury of the LORD.

20 " So the People SHOUTED when the Priests blew with the Trumpets : and it came to pass when the People heard the Sound of the Trumpet, and the People shouted with a great Shout, that the WALL FELL down FLAT, so that the People went up into the City, every Man straight before him, and they took the City.

^a Heb. xi. 30 By FAITH the WALLS of JERICHO FELL DOWN, after they were compassed about seven Days.

² Cor. x. 3 Though we walk in the Flesh, we do not war after the Flesh :

⁴ (For the Weapons of our Warfare are not carnal, but MIGHTY THROUGH GOD, to the PULLING DOWN OF STRONG HOLDS)

⁵ CASTING DOWN IMAGINATIONS, and every high Thing that EXALTETH itself AGAINST the KNOWLEDGE of GOD, and bringing into Captivity every THOUGHT to the Obedience of CHRIST.

21 And they utterly destroyed all that was in the City, both Man and Woman, Young and Old, and Ox, and Sheep, and Ass, with the Edge of the Sword.

25 And Joshua saved Rahab the Harlot alive, and her Father's Household, and all that she had ; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this Day : because she hid the Messengers which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

26 And Joshua adjured them at that time, saying, Cursed be the Man before the LORD that riseth up, and buildeth this City Jericho : he shall lay the Foundation thereof

in his First-born, and in his youngest Son shall he set up the Gates of it.

27 So the LORD was with Joshua, and his FAME was noised throughout all the Country.

C H A P. VII.

*1 The Israelites are smitten at Ai. 6 Joshua's Complaint.
10 GOD instructeth him what to do. 16 Achan is taken by
Lot : 19 His Confession : 22 He and all he had are de-
stroyed in the Valley of Achor.*

Ver. 1 **B**UT the Children of Israel committed a Trespass in the accursed Thing : for Achan of the Tribe of Judah, took of the accursed Thing : and the Anger of the LORD was kindled against the Children of Israel.

2 And Joshua sent Men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Beth-aven, on the East-side of Beth-el, and spake unto them, saying, Go up and view the Country. And the Men went up and viewed Ai.

3 And they returned to Joshua, and said unto him, Let not all the People go up : but let about two or three thousand Men go up and smite Ai, and make not all the People to labour thither ; for they are but few.

4 So there went up thither of the People about three thousand Men, and they fled before the Men of Ai.

5 And the Men of Ai smote about thirty and six Men : for they chased them from before the Gate even unto Shebarim, and smote them in the going down : wherefore the Hearts of the People melted, and became as Water.

6 And Joshua rent his Clothes, and fell to the Earth upon his Face, before the Ark of the LORD, until the Evening, he and the Elders of Israel, and put Dust upon their Heads.

7 And Joshua said, Alas, O LORD GOD, wherefore hast thou at all brought these People over Jordan, to deliver us into the Hand of the Amorites, to destroy us ? would to GOD we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan.

8 O LORD, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their Backs before their Enemies.

9 For the Canaanites and all the Inhabitants of the Land shall hear of it, and shall environ us round, and cut off our Name

Name from the Earth : and what wilt thou DO unto thy GREAT NAME ?

10 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up, wherefore liest thou thus upon thy Face ?

11 Israel hath SINNED, and they have also transgressed my Covenant which I commanded them : for they have even taken of the accursed Thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even amongst their own Stuff.

12 Therefore the Children of Israel could not stand before their Enemies, but turned their Backs before their Enemies, because they were accursed : neither will I be with you any more, except you destroy the Accursed from amongst you.

13 Up, sanctify the People, and say, Sanctify yourselves against To-morrow : for thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, There is an accursed Thing in the midst of thee, O Israel : thou canst not stand before thine Enemies, until ye take away the accursed Thing from among you.

14 In the Morning therefore ye shall be brought according to your Tribes : and it shall be that the Tribe which the LORD taketh, shall come according to the Families thereof ; and the Family which the LORD shall take, shall come by Households ; and the Household which the LORD shall take, shall come Man by Man.

15 And it shall be that he that is taken with the accursed Thing shall be burnt with Fire, he and all that he hath : because he hath transgressed the Covenant of the LORD, and because he hath wrought Folly in Israel.

16 So Joshua rose up early in the Morning, and brought Israel by their Tribes ; and the Tribe of Judah was taken.

17 And he brought the Family of Judah ; and he took the Family of the Zarahites : and he brought the Family of the Zarahites Man by Man ; and Zabdi was taken :

18 And he brought his Household Man by Man ; and Achan of the Tribe of Judah was taken.

19 And Joshua said unto Achan, My Son, give, I pray thee, Glory to the LORD GOD of Israel, and make Confession unto him ; and tell me now what thou hast done, hide it not from me.

20 And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD GOD of Israel, and thus and thus have I done.

21 When

21 When I saw among the Spoils a goodly **BABYLONISH GARMENT**, and two hundred Shekels of Silver, and a Wedge of Gold of fifty Shekels weight, then I **COVETED** them, and took them, and behold they are hid in the Earth in the midst of my Tent, and the Silver under it.

22 So Joshua sent Messengers, and they ran unto the Tent, and behold, it was hid in his Tent, and the Silver under it.

23 And they took them out of the midst of the Tent, and brought them unto Joshua, and unto all the Children of Israel, and laid them out before the **LORD**.

24 And Joshua and all Israel with him, took Achan, and the Silver, and the Garment, and the Wedge of Gold, and his Sons, and his Daughters, and all that he had : and they brought them unto the Valley of Achor.

25 And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us ? the **LORD** shall trouble thee this Day. And all Israel stoned him with Stones, and burned them with Fire, after they had stoned them with Stones.

26 And they raised up over him a great Heap of Stones unto this Day : So the **LORD** turned from the Fierceness of his Anger : wherefore the Name of that Place was called, The Valley of Achor unto this Day.

C H A P. VIII.

1 *God encourageth Joshua.* 3 *The Stratagem whereby Ai was taken.* 30 *Joshua buildeth an Altar,* 32 *writeth the Law on Stones,* 33 *propoundeth Blessings and Cursings.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the **LORD** said unto Joshua, Fear not, neither be thou dismayed : take all the People of War with thee, and arise, go up to Ai : see, I have given into thy Hand the King of Ai, and his People, and his City, and his Land.

2 And thou shalt do to Ai, and her King, as thou didst unto Jericho and her King : only the Spoil thereof, and the Cattle thereof shall ye take for a Prey unto yourselves : lay thee an Ambush for the City behind it.

3 So Joshua arose, and all the People of War, to go up against Ai : and Joshua chose out thirty thousand mighty Men of Valour, and sent them away by Night.

4 And he commanded them, saying, Behold, ye shall lie in

In wait against the City, even behind the City : go not far from the City, but be ye all ready.

5 And I, and all the People that are with me, will approach unto the City : and it shall come to pass when they come out against us, as at the first, that we will flee before them.

6 (For they will come out after us) till we have drawn them from the City ; for they will say, They flee before us, as at the first : therefore we will flee before them.

7 Then ye shall rise up from the Ambush, and seize upon the City : for the LORD your God will deliver it into your Hand.

8 And it shall be when ye have taken the City, that ye shall set the City on fire : according to the Commandment of the LORD shall ye do. See, I have commanded you.

14 And it came to pass when the King of Ai saw it, that they hastened and rose up early, and the Men of the City went out against Israel to Battle, he and all his People, at a Time appointed, before the Plain ; but he wist not that there were Liers in Ambush against him behind the City.

15 And Joshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them, and fled by the way of the Wilderness.

16 And all the People that were in Ai, were called together to pursue after them : and they pursued after Joshua, and were drawn away from the City.

17 And there was not a Man left in Ai, or Beth-el, that went not out after Israel : and they left the City open, and pursued after Israel.

18 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Stretch out the Spear that is in thy Hand toward Ai ; for I will give it into thine Hand. And Joshua stretched out the Spear that he had in his Hand toward the City.

19 And the Ambush rose quickly out of their Place, and they ran as soon as he had stretched out his Hand : and they entered into the City, and took it, and hastened, and set the City on fire.

23 And the King of Ai they took alive, and brought him to Joshua.

25 And so it was, that all that fell that Day, both of Men and Women, were twelve thousand, even all the Men of Ai.

30 Then Joshua built an Altar unto the LORD God of Israel in Mount Ebal.

31 As Moses the Servant of the LORD commanded the Children of Israel, as it is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, an Altar of whole Stones, over which no Man hath lift up any Iron : and they offered thereon Burnt-offerings unto the LORD, and sacrificed Peace-offerings.

32 And he wrote there upon the Stones a Copy of the Law of Moses, which he wrote in the presence of the Children of Israel.

33 And all Israel, and their Elders and Officers, and their Judges, stood on this side the Ark, and on that side, before the Priests the Levites, which bare the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD, as well the Stranger as he that was born among them ; half of them over against Mount Gerizzim, and half of them over against Mount Ebal : as Moses the Servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should bless the People of Israel.

34 And afterward he read all the Words of the Law, the BLESSINGS and CURSINGS, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law.

35 There was not a Word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the Congregation of Israel with the Women, and the Little ones, and the Strangers that were conversant among them.

C H A P. IX.

1 *The Kings combine against Israel.* 3 *The Gibeonites by Craft obtain a League,* 16 *For which they are condemned to perpetual Bondage.*

C H A P. X.

1 *Five Kings war against Gibeon :* 6 *Joshua rescueth it :* 10 *God fighteth against them with Hail-stones.* 12 *The Sun and Moon stand still at the Word of Joshua.* 43 *Joshua's Return.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW it came to pass, when Adonizedek King of Jerusalem had heard how Joshua had taken Ai, and had utterly destroyed it, (as he had done to Jericho and her King, so he had done to Ai and her King) and how the Inhabitants of Gibeon had made Peace with Israel, and were among them ;

2 That

2 That they feared greatly, because Gibeon was a great City, as one of the Royal Cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all the Men thereof were mighty.

3 Wherefore Adonizedek King of Jerusalem, sent unto Hoham King of Hebron, and unto Piram King of Jarmuth, and unto Japhia King of Lachish, and unto Debir King of Eglon, saying,

4 Come unto me, and help me, that we may smite Gibeon: for it hath made Peace with Joshua, and with the Children of Israel.

5 Therefore the five Kings of the Amorites, gathered themselves together, and went up, they and all their Hosts, and encamped before Gibeon, and made War against it.

6 And the Men of Gibeon sent unto Joshua, to the Camp to Gilgal, saying, Slack not thy Hand from thy Servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and help us: for all the Kings of the Amorites that dwell in the Mountains, are gathered together against us.

7 So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he, and all the People of War with him, and all the mighty Men of Valour.

8 And the LORD said unto Joshua, FEAR THEM NOT: for I have delivered them into thine Hand; there shall not a Man of them stand before thee.

9 Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, and went up from Gilgal all Night.

10 And the LORD DISCOMFITED them before Israel, and slew them with a great Slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the Way that goeth up to Beth-horon, and smote them to Azekah, and unto Makkedah.

11 ¶ And it came to pass as they fled from before Israel, and were in the going down to Beth-horon, that the LORD cast down GREAT STONES from Heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they

died: they were more which died with HAIL-STONES, than they whom the Children of Israel slew with the Sword.

12 ¶ Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the Day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the Children of Israel, and he said in

¶ *Psal. xviii. 13* The LORD also thundered in the Heavens, and the Highest gave his Voice; HAIL-STONES and Coals of Fire.

14 Yea, he sent out his Arrows, and SCATTERED them; and he shot out Lightnings, and DISCOMFITED them.

¶ *Habak. iii. 11* The SUN and MOON stood STILL in their Habitation: at the Light of thine ARROWS they went, and at the shining of thy glittering Spear.

12 Thou didst march through the

the fight of Israel, SUN, STAND THOU STILL upon Gibeon, and thou MOON in the Valley of Ajalon.

13 And the SUN STOOD STILL, and the MOON STAYED, until the People had avenged themselves upon their Enemies. Is not this written in the Book of Jasher? So the SUN STOOD STILL in the midst of Heaven, and hasted not to go down about a WHOLE DAY.

14 And there was NO DAY like that BEFORE it, or AFTER it, that the LORD HEARKNED unto the Voice of a MAN: for the LORD FOUGHT FOR ISRAEL.

15 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him unto the Camp to Gilgal.

16 But these five Kings fled, and hid themselves in a Cave at Makkedah.

18 And Joshua said, Roll great Stones upon the Mouth of the Cave, and set Men by it for to keep them.

21 And all the People returned to the Camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace; none moved his Tongue against any of the Children of Israel.

22 Then said Joshua, Open the Mouth of the Cave, and bring out those five Kings unto me out of the Cave.

23 And they did so, and brought forth those five Kings unto him out of the Cave.

24 And it came to pass when they brought out those Kings unto Joshua, that Joshua called for all the Men of Israel, and said unto the Captains of the Men of War which went with him, Come near, put your Feet upon the Necks of these Kings. And they came near, and put their Feet upon the Necks of them.

25 And JOSHUA said unto them, Fear not, nor be DISMAYED, be STRONG and of GOOD COURAGE: for thus shall the LORD DO to all your Enemies against whom ye fight.

26 And afterwards Joshua smote them, and slew them, and hanged them on five Trees: and they were hang-

Land in Indignation, thou didst thrust the Heathen in Anger.

13 Thou wentest forth for the SALVATION of THY PEOPLE, even for SALVATION with thine ARMED; thou woundedst the Head out of the House of the Wicked.

1 Psal. xviii. 31 Who is God, save the LORD? or who is a Rock, save our God?

32 It is God that girdeth me with Strength, and maketh my Way perfect.

33 He maketh my Feet like Hinds Feet, and setteth me upon my high Places.

34 He teacheth my Hands to war, so that a Bow of Steel is broken by mine Arms.

35 Thou hast also given me the Shield of thy Salvation: and thy

ed upon the Trees until the Evening.

28 And that Day Joshua took Makkedah, and smote it with the Edge of the Sword.

29 Then Joshua passed from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, unto Libnah, and fought against Libnah.

30 And the LORD delivered it also into the Hand of Israel.

31 And Joshua passed from Libnah, and all Israel with him, unto Lachish, and encamped against it.

32 And the LORD delivered Lachish into the Hand of Israel, which took it on the second Day, and smote it with the Edge of the Sword, and all the Souls that were therein, according to all that he had done to Libnah.

33 Then Horam King of Gezer, came up to help Lachish; and Joshua smote him and his People, until he had left him none remaining.

34 And from Lachish Joshua passed unto Eglon, and all Israel with him, and they encamped against it, and fought against it.

35 And they took it on that Day, and smote it with the Edge of the Sword, according to all that he had done to Lachish.

36 And Joshua went up from Eglon, and all Israel with him, unto Hebron, and they fought against it.

37 And they took it, and smote it with the Edge of the Sword, and all the Cities thereof: he left none REMAINING (according to all that he had done to Eglon.)

38 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him to Debir, and fought against it.

39 And he took it, and all the Cities thereof, and they smote them with the Edge of the Sword: as he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir.

40 So Joshua smote all the Country of the Hills, and of the South, and of the Vale, and of the Springs, and all their Kings: he left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel commanded.

Right Hand hath holden me up, and thy Gentleness hath made me great.

37 I have pursued mine Enemies, and overtaken them: neither did I turn again till they were consumed.

38 I have wounded them that they were not able to rise: they are fallen under my Feet.

39 For thou hast girded me with Strength unto Battle: thou hast subdued under me those that rose up against me.

40 Thou hast also given me the NECKS of mine ENEMIES: that I might destroy them that hate me.

41 Therefore will I give Thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the Heathen: and sing Praises unto thy Name.

41 And Joshua smote them from Kadesh-barnea, even unto Gaza, and all the Country of Goshen, even unto Gibeon.

42 And all these Kings, and their Land did Joshua take at one time : because the LORD GOD of Israel fought for Israel.

43 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the Camp to Gilgal.

C H A P. XI.

1 *Divers Kings overcome at the Waters of Merom.* 10 *Hazor is taken and burnt.* 21 *The Anakims cut off.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass, when Jabin King of Hazor had heard those Things, that he sent to Jobab King of Madon, and to the King of Shimron, and to the King of Achshaph,

2 And to the Kings that were on the North of the Mountains, and of the Plains, South of Cinneroth, and in the Valley, and in the Borders of Dor, on the West ;

3 And to the Canaanite on the East, and on the West, and to the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Jebusite in the Mountains, and to the Hivites under Hermon, in the Land of Mizpeh.

4 And they went out, they and all their Hosts with them, much People, even as the Sand that is upon the Sea-shore in multitude, with Horses and Chariots very many.

5 And when all these Kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the Waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.

6 And the LORD said unto Joshua, BE NOT AFRAID because of them : for To-morrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel : thou shalt hough their Horses, and burn their Chariots with Fire.

7 So Joshua came, and all the People of War with him, against them by the Waters of Merom suddenly, and they fell upon them.

8 And the LORD delivered them into the Hand of Israel, who smote them, and chased them unto great Zidon, and unto Misrephoth-maim, and unto the Valley of Mizpeh Eastward, and they smote them, until they left them none remaining.

9 And

9 And Joshua did unto them as the LORD bade him : he houghed their Horses, and burnt their Chariots with Fire.

10 And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the King thereof with the Sword : for Hazor beforetime was the Head of all those Kingdoms.

11 And they smote all the Souls that were therein with the Edge of the Sword, utterly destroying them : there was not any left to breathe ; and he burnt Hazor with Fire.

12 And all the Cities of those Kings, and all the Kings of them did Joshua take, and smote them with the Edge of the Sword, and he utterly destroyed them, as Moses the Servant of the LORD commanded.

13 But as for the Cities that stood still in their Strength, Israel burnt none of them, save Hazor only ; that did Joshua burn.

15 As the LORD commanded Moses his Servant, so did Moses command Joshua, and so did Joshua : he left nothing undone of all that the LORD commanded Moses.

16 So Joshua took all that Land, the Hills, and all the South-country, and all the Land of Goshen, and the Valley, and the Plain, and the Mountain of Israel, and the Valley of the same.

18 Joshua made War a long time with all those Kings.

19 There was not a City that made Peace with the Children of Israel, save the Hivites the Inhabitants of Gibeon ; all others they took in Battle.

20 For it was of the LORD to harden their Hearts, that they should come against Israel in Battle, that he might destroy them utterly, and that they might have no Favour, but that he might destroy them, as the LORD commanded Moses.

21 And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the Anakims from the Mountains of Judah, and from the Mountains of Israel : Joshua destroyed them utterly with their Cities.

22 There was none of the Anakims left in the Land of the Children of Israel : only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.

23 So Joshua took the whole Land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses, and Joshua gave it for an Inheritance unto Israel, according to their Divisions by their Tribes. And the Land rested from War.

C H A P. XVIII.

1 *The Tabernacle is set up at Shiloh.* 2 *The Remainder of the Land is described,* 10 *and divided by Lot.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the whole Congregation of the Children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the Tabernacle of the Congregation there, and the Land was subdued before them.

C H A P. XXI.

1 *Eight and forty Cities given by Lot out of the other Tribes unto the Levites.* 43 *God giveth them Rest.*

Ver. 43 **T**HE LORD gave unto Israel all the Land which he sware to give unto their Fathers : and they possessed it, and dwelt therein.

44 2 And the LORD GAVE them REST round about, according to all that he sware unto their Fathers : and there stood not a Man of all their Enemies before them ; the LORD delivered all their Enemies into their Hands.

45 There failed not ought of any good Thing which the LORD had spoken unto the House of Israel : all came to pass.

* *Hab.* iv. 7 He limiteth a certain Day, saying in David, To-day, after so long a time ; as it is said, To-day if ye will hear his Voice, harden not your Hearts.

3 For if JOSHUA had given them REST, then would he not afterward have spoken of ANOTHER DAY.

9 There REMAINETH therefore a REST to the PEOPLE of GOD.

11 Let us LABOUR therefore to enter into that REST, lest any Man FALL after the same Example of Unbelief.

C H A P. XXII.

1 *The two Tribes and a half, with a Blessing, are sent home :*
10 *They build the Altar of Testimony in their Journey :*
11 *The Israelites are offended thereat :* 21 *They give them good Satisfaction,*

C H A P. XXIII.

1 *Joshua's Exhortation before his Death,* 3 *by former Benefits,*
5 *by Promises,* 11 *and by Threatnings,*

Ver.

Ver. 1 **AND** it came to pass, a long time after that the **LORD** had given **REST** unto Israel from all their Enemies round about, that Joshua waxed old and stricken in Age.

2 And Joshua called for all Israel, and for their Elders, and for their Heads, and for their Judges, and for their Officers, and said unto them, I am old, and stricken in Age.

3 And ye have seen all that the **LORD** your **GOD** hath done unto all these Nations, because of you ; for the **LORD** your **GOD** is he that fought for you :

4 Behold, I have divided unto you by Lot these Nations that remain, to be an Inheritance for your Tribes from Jordan, with all the Nations that I have cut off, even unto the great Sea West-ward.

5 And the **LORD** your **GOD**, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight, and ye shall possess their Land, as the **LORD** your **GOD** hath promised unto you.

6 Be ye therefore very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, that ye turn not aside therefrom, to the Right Hand or to the Left,

7 That ye come not among these Nations, these that remain amongst you, neither make mention of the Name of their Gods, nor cause to swear by them, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them :

8 But **CLEAVE** unto the **LORD** your **GOD**, as ye have done unto this Day.

9 For the **LORD** hath driven out from before you, great Nations and strong : but as for you, no Man hath been able to stand before you unto this Day.

10 * One Man of you shall chase a thousand : for the **LORD** your **GOD**, he it is that **FIGHTETH** for you, as he hath promised you.

11 Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye **LOVE** the **LORD** your **GOD**.

12 Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the Remnant of these Nations, even these that remain among you, and shall make Marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you :

* This was fulfilled in the time of the Judges.

13 Know

13 Know for a certainty, that the LORD your GOD will no more drive out any of these Nations from before you ; but they shall be Snares and Traps unto you, and Scourges in your Sides, and Thorns in your Eyes, until ye perish from off this good Land which the LORD your GOD hath given you.

14 And behold, this Day I am going the WAY of ALL the EARTH, and ye know in all your Hearts, and in all your Souls, that not ONE THING hath FAILED of all the good Things which the LORD your GOD spake concerning you ; ALL are COME TO PASS unto you, and not one Thing hath failed thereof.

15 Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all good Things are come upon you, which the LORD your GOD promised you : so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil Things, until he hath destroyed you from off this good Land, which the LORD your GOD hath given you.

16 When ye have transgressed the Covenant of the LORD your GOD, which he commanded you, and have gone and served other Gods, and bowed yourselves to them : then shall the Anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good Land which he hath given unto you.

C H A P. XXIV.

1 *Joshua assembleth the Tribes, 2 relateth God's Benefits :
14 He reneweth a Covenant between them and GOD. 29
Joshua's Age, Death, and Burial. 33 Eleazar's Death.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND Joshua gathered all the Tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the Elders of Israel, and for their Heads, and for their Judges, and for their Officers, and they presented themselves before GOD.

2 And Joshua said unto all the People, Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, Your Fathers dwelt on the other side of the Flood in Old time, even Terah the Father of Abraham, and the Father of Nachor : and they served other Gods.

3 And I took your Father Abraham from the other side of the Flood, and led him throughout all the Land of Canaan, and multiplied his Seed, and gave him Isaac.

4 And

4 And I gave unto Isaac, Jacob and Esau : and I gave unto Esau Mount Seir, to possess it ; but Jacob and his Children went down into Egypt.

5 I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did amongst them : and afterward I brought you out.

6 And I brought your Fathers out of Egypt : and you came unto the Sea, and the Egyptians pursued after your Fathers with Chariots and Horsemen unto the Red Sea.

7 And when they cried unto the LORD, he put Darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the Sea upon them, and covered them ; and your Eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt : and ye dwelt in the Wilderness a long Season.

8 And I brought you into the Land of the Amorites which dwelt on the other side Jordan ; and they fought with you : and I gave them into your Hand, that ye might possess their Land, and I destroyed them from before you.

9 Then Balak the Son of Zippor King of Moab, arose and warred against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the Son of Beor to curse you :

10 But I would not hearken unto Balaam, therefore he blessed you still : so I delivered you out of his Hand.

11 And ye went over Jordan, and came unto Jericho : and the Men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, and I delivered them into your Hand.

12 And I sent the Hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two Kings of the Amorites : but not with thy Sword, nor with thy Bow.

13 And I have given you a Land for which ye did not labour, and Cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them : of the Vineyards, and Olive-yards which ye planted not, do ye eat.

14 Now therefore, FEAR the LORD, and SERVE HIM in SINCERITY and in TRUTH, and put away the Gods which your Fathers served on the other side of the Flood, and in Egypt : and serve ye the LORD.

15 * And if it seem Evil unto you to serve the LORD, I will perform it, that I will keep thy chuse : you this Day whom

* Psal. cxix. 106 I have sworn and I will perform it, that I will keep thy RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENTS.

you will serve, whether the Gods which your Fathers served,

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th.t

that were on the other side of the Flood, or the Gods of the Amorites, in whose Land ye dwell : but as for ME and MY HOUSE, WE will SERVE the LORD.

16 And the People answered and said, GOD forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other Gods.

17 For the LORD our GOD he it is that brought us up, and our Fathers out of the Land of Egypt, from the House of Bondage, and which did those great Signs in our fight, and preserved us in all the Way wherein we went, and among all the People through whom we passed.

18 And the LORD drove out from before us all the People, even the Amorites which dwelt in the Land : therefore will we also serve the LORD, for he is our GOD.

19 ^b And Joshua said unto the People, Ye cannot serve the LORD ; for he is an HOLY GOD : he is a JEALOUS GOD, he will not forgive your Transgressions, nor your Sins.

^b 1 Pet. i. 16 As it is written, Be ye HOLY, for I AM HOLY.
Heb. xiii. 14 Without HOLINESS no Man shall see the LORD.

20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange Gods, then he will turn and do you Hurt, and consume you after that he hath done you Good.

21 And the People said unto Joshua, Nay, but we will serve the LORD.

22 And Joshua said unto the People, Ye are Witnesses against yourselves, that you have chosen you the LORD to serve him. And they said, We are Witnesses.

23 Now therefore put away (said he) the strange Gods which are among you, and incline your Heart unto the LORD GOD of Israel.

24 And the People said unto Joshua, The LORD our GOD will we serve, and his Voice will we obey.

25 So Joshua made a Covenant with the People that Day, and set them a Statute and an Ordinance in Shechem.

26 And Joshua wrote these Words in the Book of the Law of GOD, and took a great Stone, and set it up there under an Oak, that was by the Sanctuary of the LORD.

27 And Joshua said unto all the People, Behold, This Stone shall be a Witness unto us ; for it hath heard all the Words of the LORD which he spake unto us : it shall be therefore a Witness unto you, lest ye deny your GOD.

28 So Joshua let the People depart, every Man unto his Inheritance.

29 And

J O S H U A. 315

29 And it came to pass after these Things, that Joshua the Son of Nun, the Servant of the LORD died, being an hundred and ten Years old.

30 And they buried him in the Border of his Inheritance in Timnath-erah, which is in Mount Ephraim, on the North-side of the Hill of Gaash.

31 And Israel served the LORD all the Days of Joshua, and all the Days of the Elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the Works of the LORD that he had done for Israel.

32 And the Bones of Joseph, which the Children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of Ground which Jacob bought of the Sons of Hamor the Father of Shechem, for an hundred Pieces of Silver; and it became the Inheritance of the Children of Joseph.

33 And Eleazar the Son of Aaron died, and they buried him in a Hill that pertained to Phinehas his Son, which was given him in Mount Ephraim,





A N
ABSTRACT
 Of the B o o k of
J U D G E S.

C H A P. I.

1 The Acts of Judah and Simeon. 4 Adoni-bezek justly requited. 8 Jerusalem, Hebron, &c. taken.

Ver. 4



ND Judah went up, and the LORD delivered the Canaanites, and the Perizzites into their Hand: and they slew of them in Bezek ten thousand Men.

5 And they fought against him.

6 But Adoni-bezek fled, and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off his Thumbs, and his Great Toes.

7 And Adoni-bezek said, Threescore and ten Kings, having their Thumbs, and their Great Toes cut off, gathered

thered their Meat under my Table : as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died.

C H A P. II.

1 An Angel rebuketh the People at Bochim. 6 The Wickedness of the new Generation after Joshua. 14, 20 Their Punishments.

Ver. 1 **A**ND an Angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you into the Land which I swore unto your Fathers ; and I said, I will never break my Covenant with you.

2 And ye shall make no League with the Inhabitants of this Land, you shall throw down their Altars : but ye have not obeyed my Voice ; Why have ye done this ?

3 Wherefore I also said, I will not drive them out from before you : but they shall be as Thorns in your Sides, and their Gods shall be a Snare unto you.

4 And it came to pass, when the Angel of the LORD spake these Words unto all the Children of Israel, that the People lift up their Voice, and wept.

5 And they called the Name of that Place Bochim : and they sacrificed there unto the LORD.

6 And when Joshua had let the People go, the Children of Israel went every Man unto his Inheritance to possess the Land.

7 And the People served the LORD all the Days of Joshua, and all the Days of the Elders that outlived Joshua, who had SEEN all the GREAT WORKS of the LORD that he did for Israel.

8 And Joshua the Servant of the LORD died, being an hundred and ten Years old.

10 And also all that Generation were gathered unto their Fathers : and there arose another Generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the Works which he had done for Israel.

11 And the Children of Israel did Evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim :

12 ^c And they FORSOOK ^c *Psal. lxxviii. 55 He cast out the Heathen also before them, and destroyed,* the LORD GOD of their Fa-
thers,

thers, which brought them out of the Land of Egypt, and followed other Gods, of the Gods of the People that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to Anger.

13 And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth.

14 And the Anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the Hands of Spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the Hands of their Enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their Enemies.

15 Whithersoever they went out, the Hand of the LORD was against them for Evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn unto them : and they were greatly distressed.

16 Nevertheless, the LORD raised up JUDGES, which delivered them out of the Hand of those that spoiled them.

17 And yet they would not hearken unto their Judges, but they went a WHORING after other Gods, and bowed themselves unto them : they turned quickly out of the way, which their Fathers walked in, obeying the Commandments of the LORD ; but they did not so.

18 And when the LORD raised them up Judges, then the LORD was with the Judge, and delivered them out of the Hand of their Enemies, all the Days of the Judge : (for it repented the LORD, because of their Groanings by reason of them that oppressed them, and vexed them.)

19 And it came to pass when the Judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their Fathers, in following other Gods to serve them, and to bow down unto them : they ceased not from their own Doings, nor from their stubborn Way.

20 And the Anger of the LORD was hot against Israel ; and he said, Because that this People hath transgressed my Covenant which I commanded their Fathers, and have not hearkened unto my Voice :

vided them an INHERITANCE by Line, and made the Tribes of Israel to dwell in their Tents.

56 Yet they TEMPTED and PROVOKED the MOST HIGH GOD, and kept not his Testimonies :

57 But turned back and dealt unfaithfully like their Fathers : they were turned aside like a deceitful Bow.

58 For they provoked him to Anger with their high Places, and moved him to Jealousy with their graven Images.

61 And delivered his Strength into Captivity, and his Glory into the Enemies Hand.

62 He gave his People over also unto the Sword : and was wroth with his Inheritance.

21 I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them, of the Nations which Joshua left, when he died :

22 That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the Way of the LORD, to walk therein, as their Fathers did keep it, or not.

23 Therefore the LORD left those Nations, without driving them out hastily, neither delivered he them into the Hand of Joshua.

C H A P. III.

1 *The Nations which were left to prove Israel : 5 By Communion with them they commit Idolatry. 12 Of Ehud.*

31 *Shamgar, who slew six hundred Men with an Ox Goad, and so delivered Israel from the Philistines.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW these are the Nations which the LORD left to prove Israel by them.

3 Namely, five Lords of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, and the Sidonians, and the Hivites that dwelt in Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal-hermon, unto the entering in of Hamath.

4 And they were to prove Israel by them, to know whether they would hearken unto the Commandments of the LORD, which he commanded their Fathers by the Hand of Moses.

5 And the Children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites :

6 And they took their Daughters to be their Wives, and gave their Daughters to their Sons, and served their Gods.

7 And the Children of Israel did Evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgot the LORD their GOD, and served Baalim, and the Groves.

8 Therefore the Anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he sold them into the Hand of Chushan-rishathaim King of Mesopotamia : and the Children of Israel served Chushan-rishathaim eight Years.

9 And when the Children of Israel cried unto the LORD, the LORD raised up a Deliverer to the Children of Israel, who delivered them, even Othniel the Son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger Brother.

10 And

10 And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel, and went out to war; and the LORD delivered Chushan-rishathaim King of Mesopotamia into his Hand: and his Hand prevailed against Chushan-rishathaim.

11 And the Land had Rest forty Years: and Othniel the Son of Kenaz died.

12 And the Children of Israel did Evil again in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD strengthened Eglon the King of Moab against Israel, because they had done Evil in the sight of the LORD.

14 So the Children of Israel served Eglon the King of Moab eighteen Years.

26 And Ehud escaped while they tarried: and passed beyond the Quarries, and escaped unto Seirath.

27 And it came to pass when he was come, that he blew a Trumpet in the Mountain of Ephraim, and the Children of Israel went down with him from the Mount, and he before them.

28 And he said unto them, Follow after me: for the LORD hath delivered your Enemies the Moabites into your Hand. And they went down after him, and took the Fords of Jordan toward Moab, and suffered not a Man to pass over.

29 And they slew of Moab at that time, about ten thousand Men, all lusty, and all Men of Valour; and there escaped not a Man.

30 So Moab was subdued that Day under the Hand of Israel: and the Land had Rest fourscore Years.

31 And after him was Shamgar the Son of Anath, which slew of the Philistines six hundred Men with an Ox-goad, and he also delivered Israel.

C H A P. IV.

1 *Deborah and Barak deliver Israel from Jabin and Sisera.*

18 *Jael killeth Sisera.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the Children of Israel again did Evil in the sight of the LORD when Ehud was dead.

2 And the LORD sold them into the Hand of Jabin King of Canaan, that reigned in Hazor; the Captain of whose Host was Sisera.

3 And

3 And the Children of Israel cried unto the LORD : for he had nine hundred Chariots of Iron ; and twenty Years he mightily oppressed the Children of Israel.

4 And Deborah a Prophetess, she judged Israel at that time.

5 And she dwelt under the Palm-tree of Deborah, and the Children of Israel came up to her for Judgment.

6 And she sent and called Barak the Son of Abinoam, out of Kadesh-naphtali, and said unto him, Hath not the LORD God of Israel commanded, saying, Go, and draw toward Mount Tabor, and take with thee ten thousand Men of the Children of Naphtali, and of the Children of Zebulun ?

7 And I will draw unto thee, to the River Kishon, Sisera the Captain of Jabin's Army, with his Chariots, and I will deliver him into thine Hand.

8 And Barak said unto her, If thou wilt go with me, then I will go : but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go.

9 And she said, I will surely go with thee : notwithstanding the Journey that thou takest, shall not be for thine Honour ; for the LORD shall sell Sisera into the Hand of a Woman. And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kadesh.

10 And Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kadesh, and he went up with ten thousand Men at his Feet : and Deborah went up with him.

12 And they shewed Sisera, that Barak was gone up to Mount Tabor.

13 And Sisera gathered nine hundred Chariots of Iron.

14 And Deborah said unto Barak, Up ; for this is the Day in which the LORD hath delivered Sisera into thine Hand : is not the LORD gone out before thee ? So Barak went down from Mount Tabor, and ten thousand Men after him.

15 And the LORD discomfited Sisera, and all his Chariots, and all his Host with the Edge of the Sword before Barak ; so that Sisera lighted down off his Chariot, and fled away on his Feet.

16 But Barak pursued : and all the Host of Sisera fell upon the Edge of the Sword, and there was not a Man left.

17 Howbeit, Sisera fled away on his Feet to the Tent of Jael

Jael the Wife of Heber the Kenite : for there was a Peace between Jabin the King of Hazor, and the House of Heber the Kenite.

18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him, Turn in, my Lord, turn in to me, fear not : and when he had turned in unto her, into the Tent, she covered him with a Mantle.

19 And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a little Water to drink, for I am thirsty : and she opened a Bottle of Milk, and gave him Drink, and covered him.

20 Again he said unto her, Stand in the Door of the Tent, and it shall be when any Man doth come and enquire of thee and say, Is there any Man here ? that thou shalt say, No.

21 Then Jael took a Nail of the Tent, and took an Hammer in her Hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the Nail into his Temples, and fastned it into the Ground : (for he was fast asleep and weary) so he died.

22 And behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the Man whom thou seekst. And when he came into her Tent, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the Nail was in his Temples.

23 So God subdued on that Day Jabin the King of Canaan before the Children of Israel.

24 And the Hand of the Children of Israel prospered, and prevailed against Jabin the King of Canaan, until they had destroyed Jabin King of Canaan.

C H A P. V.

The Song of Deborah and Barak.

Ver. 1 **T**HEN sang Deborah and Barak the Son of Abinoam, on that Day, saying,

2 Praise ye the LORD for the avenging of Israel, when the People willingly offered themselves.

3 HEAR, O ye KINGS, give ear, O ye PRINCES ; I, even I will sing unto the LORD, I will sing Praise to the LORD God of Israel.

4 ^{d Psal. lxxviii. 7} LORD, when thou wentest out of SEIR, when thou MARCHEDST out of the Field ^{O God, when thou wentest forth before thy People ; when thou didst march through the Wilderness.}

of

of EDOM, the EARTH TREMBLED, and the HEAVENS DROPPED, the CLOUDS also DROPPED WATER.

8 The EARTH SHOOK, the HEAVENS also DROPPED at the PRESENCE of GOD: even SINAI itself was MOVED at the Presence of GOD, the GOD of Israel.

11 The LORD gave the Word, great was the Company of those that published it.

12 KINGS of ARMIES did FLEE apace: and she that tarried at home divided the Spoil.

14 When the ALMIGHTY scattered Kings in it, it was as white as SNOW in Salmon.

5 ^c The MOUNTAINS MELTED from before the LORD, even that SINAI from before the LORD GOD of Israel.

^a Isa. lxiv. 3 When thou didst TERRIBLE THINGS, which we looked not for, thou camest down, the MOUNTAINS FLOWED down at thy PRESENCE.

6 In the Days of Shamgar the Son of Anath, in the Days of Jael, the Highways were unoccupied, and the Travellers walked through By-ways.

7 The Inhabitants of the Villages ceased, they ceased in Israel, until that I Deborah arose, that I arose a Mother in Israel?

8 They chose new Gods; then was War in the Gates: was there a Shield or Spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?

9 My Heart is toward the Governours of Israel, that offered themselves willingly among the People: Bless ye the LORD.

10 Speak ye that ride on white Asses, ye that sit in JUDGMENT, and walk by the way.

11 They that are delivered from the Noise of Archers in the Places of drawing Water; there shall they rehearse the righteous Acts of the LORD, even the righteous Acts towards the Inhabitants of his Villages in Israel: then shall the People of the LORD go down to the Gates.

12 Awake, awake, Deborah: awake, awake, utter a Song: arise Barak, and lead thy Captivity Captive, thou Son of Abinoam.

13 Then he made him that remaineth have Dominion over the Nobles among the People: the LORD made me have Dominion over the Mighty.

14 Out of Ephraim was there a Root of them against Amalek; after thee Benjamin, among thy People: out of Machir came down Governours, and out of Zebulun they that handle the Pen of the Writer.

15 And the Princes of Issachar were with Deborah: even

Iffachar, and also Barak, he was sent on foot into the Valley : for the Divisions of Reuben there were great Thoughts of Heart.

16 Why abodest thou among the Sheep-folds, to hear the Bleatings of the Flocks ? for the Divisions of Reuben there were great Searchings of Heart.

17 Gilead abode beyond Jordan : and why did Dan remain in Ships ? Asher continued on the Sea-shore, and abode in his Breaches.

18 Zebulun and Naphtali were a People that jeoparded their Lives unto the Death, in the high Places of the Field.

19 The Kings came and fought, then fought the Kings of Canaan in Taanach by the Waters of Megiddo, they took no Gain of Money.

20 They fought from Heaven, the Stars in their Courses fought against Sisera.

21 The River of Kishon swept them away, that ancient River, the River Kishon : O my Soul, thou hast troden down Strength.

22 Then were the Horse-hoofs broken, by the means of the Prankings, the Prankings of their mighty Ones.

23 Curse ye Meroz (said the Angel of the LORD) curse ye bitterly the Inhabitants thereof : because they came not to the Help of the LORD, to the Help of the LORD against the Mighty.

24 Blessed above Women shall Jael the Wife of Heber the Kenite be, blessed shall she be above Women in the Tent.

25 He asked Water, and she gave him Milk, she brought forth Butter in a lordly Dish.

26 She put her Hand to the Nail, and her Right Hand to the Workman's Hammer : and with the Hammer she smote Sisera, she smote off his Head, when she had pierced, and stricken through his Temples.

27 At her Feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down : at her Feet he bowed, he fell ; where he bowed, there he fell down dead.

28 The Mother of Sisera looked out at a Window, and cried through the Lattices, Why is his Chariot so long in coming ? why tarry the Wheels of his Chariot ?

29 Her wife Ladies answered her, yea, she returned Answer to herself,

30 Have they not sped ? have they not divided the Prey,
to

to every Man a Damsel or two? to Sisera a Prey of divers Colours, a Prey of divers Colours of Needle-work, of divers Colours of Needle-work on both Sides, meet for the Necks of them that take the Spoil.

31 So let all thine Enemies perish, O LORD : but let them that LOVE him, be as the Sun when he goeth forth in his Might. And the Land had Rest forty Years.

C H A P. VI.

1 *The Israelites for their Sins are oppressed by Midian : 8 A Prophet rebuketh them : 11 Gideon delivereth them.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the Children of Israel did Evil in the sight of the LORD : and the LORD delivered them into the Hand of Midian seven Years.

2 And the Hand of Midian prevailed against Israel : and because of the Midianites the Children of Israel made them the Dens which are in the Mountains, and Caves, and strong Holds.

6 And Israel was greatly impoverished, because of the Midianites ; and the Children of Israel cried unto the LORD.

8 And the LORD sent a Prophet unto the Children of Israel, which said unto them, Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the House of Bondage.

9 And I delivered you out of the Hand of the Egyptians, and out of the Hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their Land ;

10 And I said unto you, I am the LORD your God, fear not the Gods of the Amorites in whose Land ye dwell : but ye have not obeyed my Voice.

11 And there came an Angel of the LORD, and sat under an Oak which was in Ophrah, that pertained unto Joash the Abi-ezrite : and his Son Gideon threshed Wheat by the Wine-press, to hide it from the Midianites.

12 And the Angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty Man of Valour.

13 ^f And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then

^f *Heb. xi. 32* What shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of GIDEON, and of BARAK, and of SAMSON, and of JEPHTHAH, of
IS

is all this befallen us? and where be all his Miracles which our Fathers told us of, saying, Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt? but now the LORD hath forsaken us, and delivered us into the Hands of the Midianites.

14 And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy Might, and thou shalt save Israel from the Hand of the Midianites? have not I sent thee?

15 ^s And he said unto him, O my LORD, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my Family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my Father's House.

16 ^b And the LORD said unto him, SURELY I will be WITH THEE, and thou shalt smite the Midianites, as one Man.

17 And he said unto him, If now I have found Grace in thy sight, then shew me a Sign that thou talkest with me.

18 Depart not hence, I pray thee, until I come unto thee, and bring forth my Present, and set it before thee. And he said, I will tarry until thou come again.

19 And Gideon went in, and made ready a Kid, and unleavened Cakes of an Ephah of Flour, the Flesh he put in a Basket, and he put the Broth in a Pot, and brought it out unto him under the Oak, and presented it.

20 And the Angel of God said unto him, Take the Flesh, and the unleavened Cakes, and lay them upon this Rock, and pour out the Broth. And he did so,

DAVID also and SAMUEL, and of the Prophets:

33 WHO THROUGH FAITH SUBDUED KINGDOMS, WROUGHT RIGHTEOUSNESS, OBTAINED PROMISES, STOPPED THE MOUTHS OF LIONS,

34 QUENCHED THE VIOLENCE OF FIRE, ESCAPED THE EDGE OF THE SWORD, OUT OF WEAKNESS WERE MADE STRONG, WAXED VALIANT IN FIGHT, TURNED TO FLIGHT THE ARMIES OF THE ALIENS.

^s 1 Cor. i. 27 God hath chosen the FOOLISH Things of the World to confound the WISE; and God hath chosen the WEAK Things of the World to confound the Things that are MIGHTY.

^b P/al. iii. 6 I will not be afraid of ten thousands of People, that have set themselves against me round about.

7 Arise, O LORD, SAVE me. O my GOD; for thou hast SMITTEN all mine Enemies upon the Cheek bone: thou hast broken the Teeth of the Ungodly.

8 SALVATION belongeth unto the LORD: thy BLESSING is upon thy People.

P/al. xxvii. 1 The LORD is my LIGHT, and my SALVATION, whom shall I fear? the LORD is the STRENGTH of my LIFE, of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When the Wicked, even mine Enemies, and my Foes came upon me to eat up my Flesh, they stumbled and fell.

3 Though an HOST should encamp against me, my HEART shall NOT FEAR: though War should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

21 Then

21 Then the Angel of the LORD put forth the End of the Staff that was in his Hand, and touched the Flesh, and the unleavened Cakes : and there arose up Fire out of the Rock, and consumed the Flesh, and the unleavened Cakes : then the Angel of the LORD departed out of his sight.

22 And when Gideon perceived that he was an Angel of the LORD, Gideon said, Alas, O LORD GOD : for because I have seen an Angel of the LORD Face to Face.

23 And the LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee, fear not, thou shalt not die.

24 Then Gideon built an Altar there unto the LORD, and called it Jehovah-shalon.

25 And it came to pass the same Night, that the LORD said unto him, Take thy Father's young Bullock, even the second Bullock of seven Years old, and throw down the Altar of Baal that thy Father hath, and cut down the Grove that is by it :

26 And build an Altar unto the LORD thy GOD upon the top of this Rock, in the ordered Place, and take the second Bullock, and offer a Burnt-sacrifice with the Wood of the Grove which thou shalt cut down.

27 Then Gideon took ten Men of his Servants, and did as the LORD had said unto him : and so it was, because he feared his Father's Household, and the Men of the City, that he could not do it by Day, that he did it by Night.

28 And when the Men of the City arose early in the Morning, Behold, the Altar of Baal was cast down, and the Grove was cut down that was by it, and the second Bullock was offered upon the Altar that was built.

29 And they said one to another, Who hath done this Thing ? And when they enquired and asked, they said, Gideon the Son of Joash hath done this Thing.

30 Then the Men of the City said unto Joash, Bring out thy Son, that he may die : because he hath cast down the Altar of Baal, and because he hath cut down the Grove that was by it.

31 And Joash said unto all that stood against him, Will ye plead for Baal ? will ye save him ? he that will plead for him, let him be put to Death, whilst it is yet Morning : if he be a God, let him plead for himself, because one hath cast down his Altar.

32 Therefore on that Day he called him Jerubbaal, saying,

ing, Let Baal plead against him, because he hath thrown down his Altar.

33 Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites, and the Children of the East were gathered together, and went over and pitched in the Valley of Jezreel.

34 But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon, and he blew a Trumpet, and Abiezer was gathered after him.

35 And he sent Messengers throughout all Manasseh, who also was gathered after him, and he sent Messengers unto Asher, and unto Zebulun, and unto Naphtali, and they came up to meet them.

36 And Gideon said unto GOD, If thou wilt save Israel by mine Hand, as thou hast said,

37 Behold, I will put a Fleece of Wool in the Floor : and if the Dew be on the Fleece only, and it be dry upon all the Earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine Hand, as thou hast said.

38 And it was so : for he rose up early on the Morrow, and thrust the Fleece together, and wringed the Dew out of the Fleece, a bowl-full of Water.

39 And Gideon said unto GOD, Let not thine Anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once : Let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the Fleece ; let it now be dry only upon the Fleece, and upon all the Ground let there be Dew.

40 And GOD did so that Night : for it was dry upon the Fleece only, and there was Dew on all the Ground.

C H A P. VII.

1 *Gideon's Army of thirty-two thousand is reduced to three hundred : 9 He is encouraged by the Dream, and the Interpretation of the Barly-cake. 24 Oreb and Zeeb taken.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN Jerubbaal (who is Gideon) and all the People that were with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the Well of Harod : so that the Host of the Midianites were on the North-side of them by the Hill of Moreh, in the Valley.

2 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The People that are with thee, are too many for me to give the Midianites into their Hands, lest Israel VAUNT themselves against me, saying, Mine OWN HAND hath SAVED me.

3 Now

3 Now therefore go to, proclaim in the Ears of the People, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from Mount Gilead : and there returned of the People twenty and two thousand, and there remained ten thousand.

4 And the LORD said unto Gideon, The People are yet too many : bring them down unto the Water, and I will try them for thee there : and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee ; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.

5 So he brought down the People unto the Water : and the LORD said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the Water with his Tongue as a Dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself ; likewise every one that boweth down upon his Knees to drink.

6 And the Number of them that lapped, putting their Hand to their Mouth, were three hundred Men : but all the rest of the People bowed down upon their Knees to drink Water,

7 And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred Men that lapped, will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine Hand : and let all the other People go every Man unto his Place.

8 So the People took Victuals in their Hand, and their Trumpets : and he sent all the rest of Israel, every Man unto his Tent, and retained those three hundred Men : and the Host of Midian was beneath him in the Valley.

9 And it came to pass the same Night, that the LORD said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the Host, for I have delivered it into thine Hand.

10 But if thou fear to go down, go thou with Phurah thy Servant down to the Host.

11 And thou shalt hear what they say, and afterward shall thine Hands be strengthened to go down unto the Host. Then went he down with Phurah his Servant, unto the out-side of the armed Men that were in the Host.

12 And the Midianites, and the Amalekites, and all the Children of the East, lay along in the Valley like Grasshoppers for multitude ; and their Camels were without number, as the Sand by the Sea-side for multitude,

13 And when Gideon was come, behold, there was a Man that told a Dream unto his Fellow, and said, Behold, I dreamed

U u dreamed

dreamed a Dream, and lo, a Cake of Barley-bread tumbled into the Host of Midian, and came unto a Tent, and smote it, that it fell, and overturned it, that the Tent lay along.

14 And his Fellow answered and said, This is nothing else save the Sword of Gideon the Son of Joash, a Man of Israel: for into his Hand hath God delivered Midian and all the Host.

15 And it was so, when Gideon heard the telling of the Dream, and the Interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the Host of Israel, and said, Arise, for the LORD hath delivered into your Hand the Host of Midian.

16 And he divided the three hundred Men into three Companies, and he put a Trumpet in every Man's Hand, with empty Pitchers, and Lamps within the Pitchers.

17 And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and behold, when I come to the out-side of the Camp, it shall be that as I do, so shall ye do.

18 When I blow with a Trumpet, I and all that are with me, then blow ye the Trumpets also on every side of all the Camp, and say, The Sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

19 So Gideon and the hundred Men that were with him, came unto the out-side of the Camp, in the beginning of the middle Watch; and they had but newly set the Watch, and they blew the Trumpets, and brake the Pitchers that were in their Hands.

20 And the three Companies blew the Trumpets, and brake the Pitchers, and held the Lamps in their Left Hands, and the Trumpets in their Right Hands to blow withal: and cried, The Sword of the LORD, and of Gideon.

21 And they stood every Man in his Place, round about the Camp: and all the Host ran, and cried, and fled.

22 And the three hundred blew the Trumpets, and the LORD set every Man's Sword against his Fellow, even throughout all the Host: and the Host fled.

23 And the Men of Israel gathered themselves together out of Naphtali, and out of Asher, and out of all Manasseh, and pursued after the Midianites.

24 And Gideon sent Messengers throughout all Mount Ephraim, saying, Come down against the Midianites, and take before them the Waters unto Beth-barah and Jordan. Then all the Men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and took the Waters unto Beth-barah and Jordan.

25 And

J U D G E S. 331

25 i And they took two Princes of the Midianites, OREB and ZEEB; and they slew OREB upon the Rock Oreb, and ZEEB they slew at the Wine-press of Zeeb, and pursued Midian, and brought the Heads of Oreb and Zeeb to Gideon on the other side Jordan.

¹ *Psal. lxxxiii.* ² *Thine Enemies make a Tumult: and they that hate thee, lift up the Head.*

³ *They have taken crafty Counsel against thy People, and consulted against thy hidden ones.*

⁴ *They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a Nation: that the Name of Israel may be no more in Remembrance.*

⁵ *For they have consulted together with one Consent: they are confederate against thee.*

⁶ *The Tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites: of Moab, and the Hagarenes.*

⁷ *Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek, the Philistines, with the Inhabitants of Tyre.*

⁸ *Do unto them as unto the Midianites, as to Sisera, as to Jabin, at the Brook of Kison.*

¹⁰ *Which perished at En-dor: they became as Dung for the Earth.*

¹¹ *Make their Nobles like OREB, and like ZEEB: yea, all their Princes as Zebah. and as Zalmunna:*

¹² *Who said, Let us take to ourselves the Houses of God in possession.*

¹³ *O my God, make them like a Wheel: as the Stubble before the Wind.*

C H A P. VIII.

¹ *Gideon pacifieth the Ephraimites.* ⁴ *Succoth and Penuel refuse to relieve Gideon's Army.* ¹⁰ *Zeba and Zalmunna are taken.* ¹³ *Succoth and Penuel are destroyed.* ¹⁷ *Gideon revengeth his Brethrens Death on Zeba and Zalmunna:* ²² *He refuseth Government:* ²⁴ *His Ephod Cause of Idolatry.* ²⁸ *Midian subdued.* ³² *Gideon's Children and Death.* ³³ *The Israelites Idolatry and Ingratitude.*

Ver. 32 **A**ND Gideon died in a good old Age.

³³ And it came to pass as soon as Gideon was dead, that the Children of Israel turned again, and went a whoring after Baalim, and made Baal-berith their God.

³⁴ And the Children of Israel remembered not the LORD their GOD, who had delivered them out of the Hands of all their Enemies on every side.

³⁵ Neither shewed they Kindness to the House of Jerubbaal, namely Gideon, according to all the Goodness which he had shewed unto Israel.

C H A P. IX.

1 Abimelech by Conspiracy with the Shechemites, and Murder of his Brethren, is made King : 7 Jotham by a Parable rebuketh them, and foretelleth their Ruin. 22 Gaal conspireth with the Shechemites against him : 30 Zebul revealeth it. 34 Abimelech overcometh them, and soweth the City with Salt : 46 He burneth the Hold of the God Berith : 50 At Thebazz he is slain by a piece of a Milstone. 57 Jotham's Curse is fulfilled.

C H A P. X.

1 Tola judgeth Israel. 3 Jair succeedeth him, whose thirty Sons had thirty Cities. 7 The Philistines and Ammonites oppressing Israel, 15 upon their Repentance, God pitieth them.

Ver. 10 **A**ND the Children of Israel cried unto the LORD, saying, We have SINNED against thee, both because we have FORSAKEN our GOD, and also SERVED BAALIM.

11 And the LORD said unto the Children of Israel, Did not I deliver you from the Egyptians, and from the Amorites, from the Children of Ammon, and from the Philistines.

12 The Zidonians also, and the Amalekites, and the Maonites did oppress you, and ye cried to me, and I delivered you out of their Hand.

13 Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other Gods : wherefore I will deliver you no more.

14 Go and cry unto the Gods which ye have chosen ; let them deliver you in the time of your Tribulation.

15 ¹ And the Children of Israel said unto the LORD, We have sinned, do thou unto us whatsoever seemeth good unto thee, deliver us only, we pray thee, this Day.

16 And they put away the strange Gods from among them, and served the LORD :

¹ *Psal. lxxviii. 34 When he slew them, then they sought him : and they returned and enquired early after God.*

35 *And they remembered that God was their Rock, and the high God their REDEEMER.*

36 *Nevertheless they did flatter him with their Mouth, and they lied unto him with their Tongues.*

37 *For their HEART was NOT RIGHT*

and

and his Soul was grieved for with him, neither were they steadfast
the Misery of Israel. in his Covenant.

38 But he being full of COMPAS-
SION, forgave their Iniquity, and destroyed them not; yea, many a time
turned he his Anger away, and did not stir up all his Wrath.

39 For he remembered that they were but Flesh; a WIND that passeth a-
way and cometh not again.

40 How oft did they provoke him in the Wilderness, and grieve him in
the Desert?

41 Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the HOLY ONE
of Israel.

42 They remembered not his Hand, nor the Day when he delivered them
from the Enemy.

43 How he had wrought his Signs in Egypt, and his Wonders in the Field
of Zoan.

C H A P. XI.

1 *Jephthah's Covenant with the Gileadites: 29 His Vow: 32 His
Conquest of the Ammonites: 34 He performeth his Vow on
his Daughter.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty Man
of Valour, and he was the Son of an Harlot:
and Gilead begat Jephthah.

2 And Gilead's Wife bare him Sons, and his Wife's Sons
grew up, and they thrust out Jephthah, and said unto him,
Thou shalt not inherit in our Father's House, for thou
art the Son of a strange Woman.

3 Then Jephthah fled from his Brethren, and dwelt in
the Land of Tob: and there were gathered vain Men to
Jephthah, and went out with him.

4 And it came to pass in process of time, that the Chil-
dren of Ammon made War against Israel.

5 And it was so, that when the Children of Ammon made
War against Israel, the Elders of Gilead went to fetch Jeph-
thah out of the Land of Tob:

6 And they said unto Jephthah, Come and be our Cap-
tain, that we may fight with the Children of Ammon.

7 And Jephthah said unto the Elders of Gilead, Did not
ye hate me, and expel me out of my Father's House? and
why are ye come unto me now when ye are in Distress?

8 And the Elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, There-
fore we turn again to thee now, that thou mayest go with
us, and fight against the Children of Ammon, and be our
Head over all the Inhabitants of Gilead.

9 And

9 And Jephthah said unto the Elders of Gilead, If ye bring me home again to fight against the Children of Ammon, and the LORD deliver them before me; shall I be your Head?

10 And the Elders of Gilead said unto Jephthah, The LORD be Witness between us, if we do not so according to thy Words.

11 Then Jephthah went with the Elders of Gilead, and the People made him Head and Captain over them: and Jephthah uttered all his Words before the LORD in Mizpeh.

12 And Jephthah sent Messengers unto the King of the Children of Ammon, saying, What hast thou to do with me, that thou art come against me to fight in my Land?

13 And the King of the Children of Ammon answered unto the Messengers of Jephthah, Because Israel took away my Land when they came up out of Egypt: now therefore restore those Lands again peaceably.

14 And Jephthah sent Messengers again unto the King:

15 And said unto him, Thus saith Jephthah, Israel took not away the Land of Moab, nor the Land of the Children of Ammon:

16 But when Israel came up from Egypt, and walked through the Wilderness, unto the Red Sea, and came to Kadesh.

17 Then Israel sent Messengers unto the King of Edom, saying, Let me, I pray thee, pass through thy Land: but the King of Edom would not hearken thereto. And in like manner they sent unto the King of Moab; but he would not consent.

23 The LORD GOD of Israel hath dispossessed the Amorites from before his People Israel, and shouldst thou possess it?

24 Wilt not thou possess that which Chemosh thy God giveth thee to possess? So whomsoever the LORD our God shall drive out from before us, them will we possess.

25 And now art thou any thing better than Balak the Son of Zippor King of Moab? did he ever strive against Israel, or did he ever fight against them,

26 While Israel dwelt in Heshbon and her Towns, and in Aroer and her Towns, and in all the Cities that be along by the Coasts of Arnon, three hundred Years? Why therefore did ye not recover them within that Time?

27 Wherefore

27 Wherefore I have not sinned against thee, but thou dost me wrong to war against me : the LORD the Judge, be Judge this Day, between the Children of Israel, and the Children of Ammon.

28 Howbeit, the King of the Children of Ammon hearkened not unto the Words of Jephthah which he sent him.

29 Then the SPIRIT of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed over unto the Children of Ammon.

30 And Jephthah vowed a Vow unto the LORD, and said, If thou shalt without fail deliver the Children of Ammon into mine Hands,

31 Then it shall be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the Doors of my House to meet me, when I return in Peace from the Children of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD's, and I will offer it up for a Burnt-offering.

32 So Jephthah passed over unto the Children of Ammon to fight against them, and the LORD delivered them into his Hands.

33 And he smote them from Aroer, even till thou come to Minnith, even twenty Cities, and unto the Plain of the Vineyards, with a very great Slaughter. Thus the Children of Ammon were subdued before the Children of Israel.

34 And Jephthah came to Mizpeh, unto his House, and behold, his Daughter came out to meet him with Timbrels and with Dances, and she was his only Child : beside her he had neither Son nor Daughter.

35 And it came to pass when he saw her, that he rent his Clothes, and said, Alas, my Daughter, thou hast brought me very low, and thou art one of them that trouble me : for I have opened my Mouth unto the LORD, and I cannot go back.

36 And she said unto him, My Father, if thou hast opened thy Mouth unto the LORD, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy Mouth ; forasmuch as the LORD hath taken Vengeance for thee of thine Enemies, even of the Children of Ammon.

37 And she said unto him, Father, Let this Thing be done for me : Let me alone two Months, that I may go up and down upon the Mountains, and bewail my Virginity, I and my Fellows.

38 And he said, Go. And he sent her away for two Months : and she went with her Companions, and bewailed her Virginity upon the Mountains.

39 And

39 And it came to pass at the End of two Months, that she returned unto her Father, who did with her according to his Vow which he had vowed : and she knew no Man. And it was a Custom in Israel,

40 That the Daughters of Israel went yearly to lament the Daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite four Days in a Year.

C H A P. XII.

1 *The Ephraimites quarrelling with Jephthah, and discerned by Shibboleth, are slain by the Gileadites.* 7 *Jephthah dieth.* 8 *Ibzan,* 11 *Elon,* 13 *and Abdon judged Israel.*

C H A P. XIII.

1 *Israel is oppressed by the Philistines.* 2 *An Angel appeareth to Manoah's Wife.* 8 *The Angel appeareth to Manoah.* 15 *Manoah's Sacrifice, whereby the Angel is discovered.* 24 *Samson is born.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the Children of Israel did evil again in the fight of the LORD, and the LORD delivered them into the Hand of the Philistines forty Years.

2 And there was a certain Man of Zorah, of the Family of the Danites, whose Name was Manoah, and his Wife was barren and bare not.

3 And the Angel of the LORD appeared unto the Woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren and bearest not : but thou shalt conceive, and bear a Son.

4 Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not Wine, nor Strong drink, and eat not any unclean Thing.

5 For lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a Son, and no Razor shall come on his Head : for the Child shall be a NAZARITE unto GOD from the Womb : and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the Hand of the Philistines.

6 Then the Woman came and told her Husband, saying, A Man of GOD came unto me, and his Countenance was like the Countenance of an ANGEL of GOD, very TERRIBLE : but I asked him not whence he was, neither told he me his Name.

8 Then Manoah intreated the LORD, and said, O my LORD, let the Man of GOD which thou didst send, come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the Child that shall be born.

9 And

9 And GOD hearkned to the Voice of Manoah ; and the ANGEL of GOD came again unto the Woman as she sat in the Field : but Manoah her Husband was not with her.

10 And the Woman made haste, and ran and shewed her Husband, and said unto him, Behold, the Man hath appeared unto me, that came unto me the other Day.

11 And Manoah arose, and went after his Wife, and came to the Man, and said unto him, Art thou the Man that spakest unto the Woman ? And he said, I am.

12 And Manoah said, Now let thy Words come to pass : How shall we order the Child, and how shall we do unto him ?

13 And the ANGEL of the LORD said unto Manoah, Of all that I said unto the Woman, let her beware.

14 She may not eat of any thing that cometh of the Vine, neither let her drink Wine or Strong drink, nor eat any unclean Thing : all that I commanded her, let her observe.

15 And Manoah said unto the Angel of the LORD, I pray thee, let us detain thee until we shall have made ready a Kid for thee.

16 And the Angel of the LORD said unto Manoah, Though thou detain me, I will not eat of thy Bread : and if thou wilt offer a Burnt-offering, thou must offer it unto the LORD : for Manoah knew not that he was an Angel of the LORD.

17 And Manoah said unto the Angel of the LORD, What is thy Name, that when thy Sayings come to pass, we may do thee Honour ?

18 And the Angel of the LORD said unto him, Why askest thou thus after my Name, seeing it is SECRET ?

19 So Manoah took a Kid, with a Meat-offering, and offered it upon a Rock unto the LORD : And the Angel did wondrously, and Manoah and his Wife looked on.

20 For it came to pass, when the Flame went up toward Heaven from off the Altar, that the Angel of the LORD ascended in the Flame of the Altar : and Manoah and his Wife looked on it, and fell on their Faces to the Ground.

21 (But the Angel of the LORD did no more appear to Manoah and to his Wife.) Then Manoah knew that he was an Angel of the LORD.

22 And Manoah said unto his Wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen GOD.

23 But his Wife said unto him, If the LORD were pleased

to kill us, he would not have received a Burnt-offering and a Meat-offering at our Hands, neither would he have shewed us all these Things, nor would as at this time have told us such Things as these.

24 And the Woman bare a Son, and called his Name Samson : and the Child grew, and the LORD BLESSED him.

25 And the Spirit of the LORD began to move him at Times in the Camp of Dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.

C H A P. XIV.

1 *Samson desireth a Wife of the Philistines :* 5 *In his Journey he killeth a Lion :* 10 *His Marriage-feast,* 12 *and Riddle :* 19 *He spoileth thirty Philistines :* 20 *His Wife is married to another.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND Samson went down to Timnath, and saw a Woman in Timnath, of the Daughters of the Philistines.

2 And he came up and told his Father, and his Mother, and said, I have seen a Woman in Timnath of the Daughters of the Philistines : now therefore get her for me to Wife.

3 Then his Father and Mother said unto him, Is there never a Woman among the Daughters of thy Brethren, or among all my People, that thou goest to take a Wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? and Samson said unto his Father, Get her for me, for she pleaseth me well.

4 But his Father and his Mother knew not that it was of the LORD, that he sought an Occasion against the Philistines : for at that time the Philistines had Dominion over Israel.

5 Then went Samson down, and his Father, and his Mother, to Timnath, and came to the Vineyards of Timnath : and behold, a young Lion rored against him.

6 And the SPIRIT of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a Kid, and he had nothing in his Hand : but he told not his Father or his Mother what he had done.

7 And he went down, and talked with the Woman, and she pleased Samson well.

8 And after a time, he returned to take her, and he turned aside to see the Carcase of the Lion : and behold, there
was

was a Swarm of Bees, and Honey in the Carcase of the Lion.

9 And he took thereof in his Hands, and went on eating, and came to his Father and Mother, and he gave them, and they did eat : but he told not them that he had taken the Honey out of the Carcase of the Lion.

10 So his Father went down unto the Woman, and Samson made there a Feast : for so used the young Men to do.

11 And it came to pass when they saw him, that they brought thirty Companions to be with him.

12 And Samson said unto them, I will now put forth a Riddle unto you : if you can certainly declare it me within seven Days of the Feast, and find it out, then I will give you thirty Sheets, and thirty Change of Garments.

13 But if ye cannot declare it me, then shall ye give me thirty Sheets, and thirty Change of Garments. And they said unto him, Put forth thy Riddle, that we may hear it.

14 And he said unto them, Out of the Eater came forth Meat, and out of the Strong came forth Sweetness. And they could not in three Days expound the Riddle,

15 And it came to pass on the seventh Day, that they said unto Samson's Wife, Entice thy Husband, that he may declare unto us the Riddle, lest we burn thee and thy Father's House with Fire : have ye called us to take that we have ? is it not so ?

16 And Samson's Wife wept before him, and said, Thou dost but hate me, and lovest me not : thou hast put forth a Riddle unto the Children of my People, and hast not told it me. And he said unto her, Behold, I have not told it my Father nor my Mother, and shall I tell it thee ?

17 And she wept before him the seven Days, while their Feast lasted : and it came to pass on the seventh Day, that he told her, because she lay sore upon him : and she told the Riddle to the Children of her People.

18 And the Men of the City said unto him on the seventh Day before the Sun went down, What is sweeter than Honey ? and what is stronger than a Lion ? And he said unto them, If ye had not plowed with my Heifer, ye had not found out my Riddle.

19 And the SPIRIT of the LORD came upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon, and slew thirty Men of them, and took their Spoil, and gave Change of Garments unto them which expounded the Riddle : and his Anger was kindled, and he went up to his Father's House.

20 But Samson's Wife was given to his Companion, whom he had used as his Friend.

C H A P. XV.

1 *Samson is denied his Wife : 3 He burneth the Philistines Corn with Foxes and Firebrands : 6 His Wife and her Father are burnt by the Philistines : 7 He smiteth them Hip and Thigh : 9 He is bound by the Men of Judah, and delivered to the Philistines : 14 He killeth them with a Jaw-bone.*

Ver. 8 **A**ND Samson smote the Philistines Hip and Thigh with a great Slaughter ; and he went down and dwelt in the Top of the Rock Etam.

9 Then the Philistines went up and pitched in Judah.

10 And the Men of Judah said, Why are ye come up against us ? And they answered, To bind Samson are we come up, to do to him as he hath done to us.

11 Then three thousand Men of Judah went to the Top of the Rock Etam, and said to Samson, Knowest thou not that the Philistines are Rulers over us ? what is this that thou hast done unto us ? And he said unto them, As they did unto me, so have I done unto them.

12 And they said unto him, We are come down to bind thee, that we may deliver thee into the Hand of the Philistines. And Samson said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye will not fall upon me yourselves.

13 And they spake unto him, saying, No : but we will bind thee fast, and deliver thee into their Hand : but surely we will not kill thee. And they bound him with two new Cords, and brought him up from the Rock.

14 And when he came unto Lehi, the Philistines shouted against him : and the SPIRIT of the LORD came MIGHTILY upon him, and the Cords that were upon his Arms, became as Flax that was burnt with Fire, and his Bands loosed from off his Hands.

15 And he found a new Jaw-bone of an Ass, and put forth his Hand and took it, and slew a thousand Men therewith.

16 And Samson said, With the Jaw of an Ass, Heaps upon Heaps, with the Jaw-bone of an Ass, have I slain a thousand Men.

17 And it came to pass when he had made an end of speaking, that he cast away the Jaw-bone out of his Hand, and called that Place Ramath-lehi,

18 And

18 And he was sore athirst, and called on the LORD, and said, Thou hast given this great Deliverance into the Hand of thy Servant : and now shall I die for Thirst, and fall into the Hand of the Uncircumcised ?

19 But GOD clave an hollow Place that was in the Jaw, and there came Water thereout ; and when he had drank, his Spirit came again, and he revived : wherefore he called the Name thereof En-hakkore, which is in Lehi, unto this Day.

20 And he judged Israel in the Days of the Philistines twenty Years.

C H A P. XVI.

1 *Samson carrieth away the Gates of Gaza.* 4 *Delilah corrupted by the Philistines, enticeth him,* 15 *and overcometh him :* 21 *The Philistines put out his Eyes :* 22 *The manner of his Death.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN went Samson to Gaza, and saw there an Harlot, and went in unto her.

2 And it was told the Gazites, saying, Samson is come hither. And they compassed him in, and laid wait for him all Night in the Gate of the City, and were quiet all the Night, saying, In the Morning when it is Day, we shall kill him.

3 And Samson lay till Midnight, and arose at Midnight, and took the Doors of the Gate of the City, and the two Posts, and went away with them, Bar and all, and put them upon his Shoulders, and carried them up to the Top of an Hill that is before Hebron.

4 And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a Woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose Name was Delilah.

5 And the Lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great Strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him : and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of Silver.

6 And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great Strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.

7 And Samson said unto her, If they bind me with seven green Withs that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another Man.

8 Then

8 Then the Lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven green Withs which had not been dried, and she bound him with them.

9 (Now there were Men lying in wait, abiding with her in the Chamber) And she said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he brake the Withs, as a Thread of Tow is broken when it toucheth the Fire: so his Strength was not known.

10 And Delilah said unto Samson, Behold, thou hast mocked me, and told me Lyes: now tell me, I pray thee, wherewith thou mightest be bound.

11 And he said unto her, If they bind me fast with new Ropes that never were occupied, then shall I be weak, and be as another Man.

12 Delilah therefore took new Ropes, and bound him therewith, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. (And there were Liers in wait abiding in the Chamber) And he brake them from off his Arms like a Thread.

13 And Delilah said unto Samson, Hitherto thou hast mocked me, and told me Lyes: tell me wherewith thou mightest be bound. And he said unto her, If thou weavest the seven Locks of my Head with the Web.

14 And she fastned it with a Pin, and said unto him, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awaked out of his Sleep, and went away with the Pin of the Beam, and with the Web.

15 And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine Heart is not with me? Thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great Strength lieth.

16 And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her Words, and urged him, so that his Soul was vexed unto Death;

17 That he told her all his Heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a Razor on mine Head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my Mother's Womb: if I be shaven, then my Strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like another Man.

18 And when Delilah saw that he had told her all his Heart, she sent and called for the Lords of the Philistines, saying, Come up this once, for he hath shewed me all his Heart. Then the Lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and brought Money in their Hands.

19 And

19 And she made him sleep upon her Knees, and she called for a Man, and she caused him to shave off the seven Locks of his Head, and she began to afflict him, and his Strength went from him.

20 And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his Sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.

21 But the Philistines took him, and put out his Eyes, and brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with Fetters of Brasse, and he did grind in the Prison-house.

22 Howbeit, the Hair of his Head began to grow again, after he was shaven.

23 Then the Lords of the Philistines gathered them together, for to offer a great Sacrifice unto Dagon their God, and to rejoyce: for they said, Our God hath delivered Samson our Enemy into our Hand.

24 And when the People saw him, they praised their God: for they said, Our God hath delivered into our Hands our Enemy, and the Destroyer of our Country, which slew many of us.

25 And it came to pass when their Hearts were merry, that they said, Call for Samson, that he may make us Sport. And they called for Samson out of the Prison-house; and he made them Sport: and they set him between the Pillars.

26 And Samson said unto the Lad that held him by the Hand, Suffer me that I may feel the Pillars whereupon the House standeth, that I may lean upon them.

27 Now the House was full of Men and Women; and all the Lords of the Philistines were there: and there were upon the Roof about three thousand Men and Women, that beheld while Samson made Sport.

28 And Samson called unto the LORD, and said, O LORD GOD, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O GOD, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two Eyes.

29 And Samson took hold of the two middle Pillars, upon which the House stood, and on which it was born up, of the one with his Right Hand, and of the other with his Left.

30 ¹ And Samson said, Let ¹ *Heb. xi. 34* BY FAITH out of me die with the Philistines: Weakness were made strong. and he bowed himself with all his Might; and the House fell upon the Lords, and upon all the People that were therein:

so the Dead which he slew at his Death, were more than they which he slew in his Life.

31 Then his Brethren, and all the House of his Father, came down and took him, and brought him up, and buried him between Zorah and Eshtaol, in the Burying-place of Manoah his Father : and he judged Israel twenty Years.

C H A P. XVII.

1 *Of the Money that Micah first stole, then restored : His Mother maketh Images, 5 and the Ornaments for them : 7 He hireth a Levite to be his Priest.*

C H A P. XVIII.

1 *The Danites send five Men to seek out an Inheritance. 3 At the House of Micah they consult with Jonathan, and are encouraged in their way : 7 They search Laish, and bring back News of good Hope : 11 Six hundred Men are sent to surprise it : 14 In the way they rob Micah of his Priest and his consecrated Things : 27 They win Laish, and call it Dan : 30 They set up Idolatry, wherein Jonathan inherited the Priesthood.*

C H A P. XIX.

1 *A Levite goeth to Bethlehem to fetch home his Wife, 16 An old Man entertaineth him at Gibeah. 22 The Gibeathites abuse his Concubine to Death : 29 He divideth her into twelve Pieces, to send them to the twelve Tribes.*

C H A P. XX.

1 *The Levite in a General Assembly declareth his Wrong. 8 The Decree of the Assembly. 12 The Benjamites being cited, make Head against the Israelites. 18 The Israelites in two Battles lose forty thousand : 26 They destroy by a Stratagem all the Benjamites except six hundred.*

C H A P. XXI.

1 *The People bewail the Desolation of Benjamin. 8 By the Destruction of Jabesh-gilead, they provide them four hundred Wives. 16 They advise them to surprise the Virgins that danced at Shikoh.*





AN
ABSTRACT
Of the BOOK of
R U T H.

CHAP. I.

*Elimlech driven by Famine into Moab, dieth there, 6 Na-
omi returning home, 14 Ruth accompanieth her.*

CHAP. II.

1 Ruth gleaneth in the Fields of Boaz : 4 He taketh knowledge of her, 8 and sheweth her great Favour.

CHAP. III.

1 By Naomi's Instruction, 5 Ruth lieth at Boaz his Feet,
8 Boaz acknowledgeth the Right of a Kinsman.

CHAP. IV.

7 Boaz calleth into Judgment the next Kinsman : 6 He refusing the Redemption, 10 Boaz marieth her,

Y y

A N



A N

ABSTRACT

Of the FIRST BOOK of

SAMUEL.



CHAP. I.

1 *Elkana and his two Wives. 9 Hannah's Prayer. 19 Samuel is born, 24 and presented to the LORD.*

Ver. 1.



OW there was a certain Man, and his Name was Elkana :

2 And he had two Wives, the Name of the one was Hannah, and the Name of the other Peninnah : She had Children, but Hannah had no Child.

3 And this Man went up yearly to worship in Shiloh ; and the two Sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the Priests of the LORD, were there.

4 And when the Time was that Elkanah offered, he gave

to

to Peninnah his Wife, and to all her Sons and her Daughters Portions.

5 But unto Hannah he gave a worthy Portion : for he loved Hannah :

6 And her Adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret, because the LORD had shut up her Womb.

7 And as he did so Year by Year, when she went up to the House of the LORD, so she provoked her ; therefore she wept, and did not eat.

8 Then said Elkanah her Husband to her, Hannah, why weepest thou ? and why eatest thou not ? and why is thy Heart grieved ? am not I better to thee than ten Sons ?

9 So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk : (now Eli the Priest sat upon a Seat by a Post of the Temple of the LORD.)

10 ^m And she was in BITTERNESS of SOUL, and PRAYED unto the LORD, and wept sore.

11 And she vowed a Vow, and said, O LORD of Hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the Affliction of thine Handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine Handmaid, but wilt give unto thine Handmaid a Man-child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the Days of his Life, and there shall no Razor come upon his Head.

12 And it came to pass as she continued PRAYING before the LORD, that ELI marked her Mouth.

13 Now Hannah, she SPAKE in her HEART, only her Lips moved, but her Voice was not heard : therefore ELI thought she had been drunken.

14 And ELI said unto her,

^m James v. 13 Is any among you AFFLICTED ? let him PRAY. Is any MERRY ? let him SING PSALMS.

15 And the PRAYER of FAITH shall save the Sick, and the LORD shall raise him up ; and if he have committed Sins, they shall be forgiven him.

17 Elias was a Man subject to like Passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain : and it rained not on the Earth by the Space of three Years, and ten Months.

18 And he prayed again, and the Heaven gave Rain, and the Earth brought forth her Fruit.

Philip. iv. 6 Be careful for nothing : but in EVERY THING by PRAYER and SUPPLICATION, with THANKSGIVING, let your REQUESTS be MADE known unto God.

7 And the PEACE of God, which PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING, shall KEEP your HEARTS and MINDS through CHRIST JESUS.

1 John v. 14 And this is the CONFIDENCE that we have in HIM, that if we ASK any thing according to his WILL, he heareth us.

15 And if we know that he HEAR us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the PETITIONS that we desired of him.

Mark xi 24 Therefore I say unto you, What THINGS soever ye desire

Y y 2 How

348 I, S A M U E L.

How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy Wine when ye PRAY, believe that ye receive THEM, and ye shall have THEM from thee.

15 And Hannah answered and said, No, my Lord, I am a Woman of a sorrowful Spirit: I have drunk neither Wine nor Strong Drink, but have POURED OUT my SOUL before the LORD.

16 Count not thine Handmaid for a Daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my Complaint and Grief have I spoken hitherto.

17 Then ELI answered and said, Go in Peace: and the GOD of ISRAEL grant thee thy Petition that thou hast asked of him.

18 And she said, Let thy Handmaid find Grace in thy sight. So the Woman went her way, and did eat, and her Countenance was no more sad.

19 And they rose up in the Morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned and came to their House to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his Wife, and the LORD remembered her.

20 Wherefore it came to pass when the Time was come about, after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a Son, and called his Name SAMUEL, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD.

21 And the Man Elkanah and all his House went up to offer unto the LORD the yearly Sacrifice, and his Vow.

22 But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her Husband, I will not go up until the Child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD, and there abide for ever.

23 And Elkanah her Husband said unto her, Do what seemeth thee good, tarry until thou have weaned him, only the LORD establish his Word: so the Woman abode, and gave her Son Suck until she weaned him.

24 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three Bullocks, and one Ephah of Flour, and a Bottle of Wine, and brought him unto the House of the LORD in SHILOH: and the Child was young.

25 And they brought the Child to ELI.

26 And she said, O my Lord, as thy Soul liveth, my Lord, I am the Woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

27 For

27 For this Child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my Petition which I asked of him:

28 Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD as long as he liveth, he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

C H A P. II.

1 *Hannah's Song.* 12 *The Sin of Eli's Sons:* 18 *Samuel's Ministry.* 27 *A Prophecy against Eli's House.*

Ver. 1. **A**ND^a Hannah prayed, and said, My Heart REJOYCETH in the LORD, mine Horn is exalted in the LORD: my Mouth is enlarged over mine Enemies: because I rejoice in thy SALVATION.

2 ^o There is none HOLY as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any ROCK like our GOD.

3 Talk no more so exceedingly proudly, let not Arrogancy come out of your Mouth: for the LORD is a GOD of Knowledge, and by him Actions are weighed.

4 The Bows of the mighty Men are broken, and they that stumbled are girt with Strength.

5 They that were full, have hired out themselves for Bread; and they that were hungry, ceased: so that the Barren hath born seven; and she that hath many Children, is waxed feeble.

6 The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the Grave, and bringeth up.

8 ^p He RAISETH up the POOR out of the DUST, and lifteth up the Beggar from the Dunghil, to set them among Princes, and to make them INHERIT the Throne of GLORY: for the PILLARS of the EARTH are the LORD's, and he hath set the World upon them.

^a Luke i. 25 Elizabeth said, That hath the LORD DEALT with me, in the DAYS wherein he LOOKED ON ME, to take away my REPROACH from among Men.

^o Rev. xv. 4 Who shall not FEAR thee, O LORD, and GLORIFY thy NAME? for thou only art HOLY.

^p Psal. lxxvi. 3 Be MERCIFUL unto me, O LORD: for I CRY unto thee daily.

^p Psal. lxxv. 6 PROMOTION cometh neither from the East, nor from the West, nor from the South.

7 But GOD is the JUDGE: he PUTTETH DOWN ONE, and SETTETH UP ANOTHER.

9 I will declare for ever; I will SING PRAISES to the GOD of Jacob.

10 All the HORNS of the Wicked also will I cut off; but the Horns of the Righteous shall be exalted.

^p Psal. cxlii. 4 The LORD is HIGH

9 He will keep the Feet of his SAINTS, and the Wicked shall be silent in Darknes; for by Strength shall no Man prevail.

above all Nations, and his GLORY ABOVE the HEAVENS.

5 Who is LIKE unto the LORD our GOD, who DWELLETH ON HIGH

6 Who humbleth himself to BEHOLD the Things that are in HEAVEN, and in the EARTH.

7 He RAISETH up the POOR out of the DUNGHIL: and lifteth the Needy out of the Dust, and keepeth the House, and to be a joyful Mother of Children. Praise ye the LORD.

8 That he may set him with Princes, even with the Princes of his People.

9 He maketh the barren Woman to keep House, and to be a joyful Mother of Children. Praise ye the LORD.

10 9 The ADVERSARIES of the LORD shall be BROKEN to pieces: out of Heaven shall he THUNDER upon them: the LORD shall judge the Ends of the Earth, and he shall give Strength unto his King, and exalt the Horn of his Anointed.

9 Psa. lxxviii. 13 The LORD THUNDERED in the HEAVENS, and the HIGHEST gave his VOICE; HAIL STONES and COALS of FIRE.

11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his House; and the Child did minister unto the LORD before ELI the Priest.

12 Now the Sons of ELI were Sons of BELIAL, they KNEW NOT the LORD.

13 And the Priest's Custom with the People was, that when any Man offered Sacrifice, the Priest's Servant came, while the Flesh was in seething, with a Flesh-hook of three Teeth in his Hand:

14 And he struck it into the Pot; all that the Flesh-hook brought up, the Priest took for himself: so they did in Shiloh, unto all the Israelites that came thither.

15 Also before they burnt the Fat, the Priest's Servant came, and said to the Man that sacrificed, Give Flesh to roast for the Priest; for he will not have sodden Flesh of thee, but raw.

16 And if any Man said unto him, Let them not fail to burn the Fat presently, and then take as much as thy Soul desireth: then he would answer him, Nay, but thou shalt give it me now: and if not, I will take it by Force.

17 1 Wherefore the Sin of the Young Men was very great before the LORD: for Men ABHORRED the Offering of the LORD.

1 Isa. lvi. 10 His WATCHMEN are BLIND: they are all IGNORANT, they are all DUMB DOGS, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, LOVING TO SLUMBER.

18 But Samuel ministred before the LORD, being a Child, girded with a linen Ephod.

11 Yea, they are GREEDY DOGS, which can NEVER have ENOUGH, and they are SHEPHERDS that CANNOT UNDERSTAND; they all look to their own WAY, EVERY ONE for his GAIN from his QUARTER.

19 Moreover,

19 Moreover, his Mother made him a little Coat, and brought it to him from Year to Year, when she came up with her Husband, to offer the yearly Sacrifice.

20 And ELI blessed Elkanah, and his Wife, and said, The LORD give thee Seed of this Woman, for the Loan which is lent to the LORD. And they went unto their own Home.

21 And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three Sons, and two Daughters: and the Child SAMUEL grew before the LORD.

22 Now ELI was very old, and heard all that his Sons did unto all Israel, and how they lay with the Women that assembled at the Door of the Tabernacle of the Congregation.

23 And he said unto them, Why do ye such Things? for I hear of your Evil Dealings by all this People.

24 Nay, my Sons: for it is no good Report that I hear: ye make the LORD's People to transgress.

25 If one Man sin against another, the Judge shall judge him: but if a Man sin against the LORD, who shall intreat for him? Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the Voice of their Father, because the LORD would slay them.

26 (And the Child SAMUEL grew on, and was in Favour both with the LORD, and also with Men.)

27 And there came a Man of GOD unto ELI, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Did I plainly appear unto the House of thy Father, when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh's House?

28 And did I chuse him out of all the Tribes of Israel to be my Priest, to offer upon mine Altar, to burn Incense,

Jer. xxiii. 11 Both PROPHET and PRIEST ARE PROPHANE, YEA, in MY HOUSE have I found their WICKEDNESS, saith the LORD.

12 Wherefore their Way shall be unto them as SLIPPERY Ways in the DARKNESS: they shall be driven on, and fall therein: for I will bring EVIL upon them, even the Year of their VISITATION, saith the LORD.

13 And I have seen FOLLY in the PROPHETS of Samaria; they prophesied in Baal, and caused my PEOPLE Israel to ERR.

14 I have seen also in the PROPHETS of Jerusalem an HORRIBLE Thing: they commit ADULTERY, and walk in LIES: they STRENGTHEN also the Hands of EVIL DOERS, that NONE doth RETURN from his WICKEDNESS: they are all of them unto me as SODOM, and the Inhabitants thereof as Gomorrah.

15 Therefore thus saith the LORD of Hosts concerning the PROPHETS, Behold, I will feed them with WORMWOOD, and make them drink the Water of GALL: for from the PROPHETS of Jerusalem is PROFANENESS gone forth into ALL the LAND.

Jer. v. 30 A wonderful and horrible Thing is committed in the Land.

31 The PROPHETS prophesy FALSLY, and the Priests bear Rule by their means, and my PEOPLE LOVE to have it so.

to wear an Ephod before me? and did I give unto the House of thy Father all the Offerings made by Fire of the Children of Israel?

29 Wherefore kick ye at my Sacrifice, and at mine Offering, which I have commanded in my Habitation, and honourest thy Sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the Offerings of ISRAEL my People?

30 Wherefore the LORD GOD of ISRAEL saith, I said indeed, that thy House, and the House of thy Father should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that HONOUR ME, I WILL HONOUR, and they that DESPISE ME, shall be lightly esteemed.

31 Behold, the Days come that I will cut off thine Arm, and the Arm of thy Father's House, that there shall not be an Old Man in thine House.

32 And thou shalt see an Enemy in my Habitation, in all the Wealth which GOD shall give Israel: and there shall not be an Old Man in thine House for ever.

33 And the Man of thine, whom I shall not cut off from mine Altar, shall be to consume thine Eyes, and to GRIEVE thine Heart: and all the Increase of thine House shall die in the flower of their Age.

34 And this shall be a Sign unto thee, that shall come upon thy two Sons, on Hophni and Phinehas: in one Day they shall die both of them.

35 And I will raise me up a FAITHFUL PRIEST, that shall do according to that which is in mine Heart, and in my Mind: and I will build him a sure House, and he shall walk before mine Anointed for ever.

36 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thine House, shall come and crouch to him for a Piece of Silver, and a Morfel of Bread, and shalt say, Put me (I pray thee) into one of the Priest's Offices, that I may eat a Piece of Bread.

C H A P. III.

- 1 *How the Word of the LORD was first revealed to Samuel,*
11 *GOD telleth Samuel the Destruction of Eli's House.*

Ver. 1. **A**ND the Child SAMUEL ministred unto the LORD before ELI: and the Word of the LORD was precious in those Days; there was no open VISION.

• 2 And

I. S A M U E L: 353

2 And it came to pass at that Time, when ELI was laid down in his Place, and his Eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see ;

3 And ere the Lamp of GOD went out in the Temple of the LORD, where the Ark of GOD was, and SAMUEL was laid down to sleep :

4 That the LORD called Samuel, and he answered, Here am I.

5 And he ran unto ELI, and said, Here am I, for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not ; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

6 And the LORD called yet again, SAMUEL. And SAMUEL arose and went to ELI, and said, Here am I, for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my Son ; lie down again.

7 Now SAMUEL did not yet know the LORD, neither was the Word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

8 And the LORD called SAMUEL again the third time. And he arose and went to ELI, and said, Here am I, for thou didst call me. And ELI perceived that the LORD had called the Child.

9 Therefore ELI said unto SAMUEL, Go, lie down : and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak LORD, for thy Servant heareth. So SAMUEL went and lay down in his Place.

10 And the LORD came, and stood and called as at other Times, SAMUEL, SAMUEL. Then SAMUEL answered, Speak, for thy Servant heareth.

11 And the LORD said to SAMUEL, Behold, I will do a Thing in Israel, at which both the Ears of every one that heareth it, shall tingle.

12 In that Day, I will perform against ELI all Things which I have spoken concerning his House : when I begin, I will also make an end.

13 For I have told him that I will judge his House for ever, for the Iniquity which he knoweth : because his Sons made themselves VILE, and he RESTRAINED them not.

14 And therefore I have sworn unto the House of ELI, that the Iniquity of ELI's House shall NOT be PURGED with Sacrifice, nor Offering for ever.

15 And SAMUEL lay until the Morning, and opened the Doors of the House of the LORD : and SAMUEL feared to shew ELI the VISION.

16 Then ELI called SAMUEL, and said, SAMUEL my SON. And he answered, Here am I.

17 And he said, What is the Thing that the LORD hath said unto thee? I pray thee hide it not from me: GOD do so to thee, and more also, if thou hide any thing from me, of all the Things that he said unto thee.

18 And SAMUEL told him every whit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It is the LORD: let him do what seemeth him good.

19 And SAMUEL grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his Words fall to the Ground.

20 And all Israel from Dan even to Beer-sheba knew that SAMUEL was established to be a PROPHET of the LORD.

21 And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for the LORD REVEALED himself to SAMUEL in Shiloh, by the Word of the LORD.

C H A P. IV.

1 *The Israelites are overcome by the Philistines.* 10 *The Ark is taken, and Eli's Sons slain.* 12 *Eli hearing the News, breaketh his Neck.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the Word of SAMUEL came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to Battle.

2 And the Philistines put themselves in Array again Israel: and when they joined Battle, Israel was smitten before the Philistines.

3 And when the People were come into the Camp, the Elders of Israel said, Wherefore hath the LORD smitten us To-day before the Philistines? Let us fetch the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD out of Shiloh unto us, that when it cometh among us, it may save us out of the Hand of our Enemies.

4 So the People sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from thence the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD of Hosts, which dwelleth between the Cherubims: and the two Sons of ELI, Hophni and Phinehas, were there, with the ARK of the COVENANT of GOD.

5 And when the ARK of the COVENANT of the LORD came into the Camp, all Israel shouted with a great Shout, so that the Earth rang again.

6 And when the Philistines heard the Noise of the Shout, they

they said, What meaneth the Noise of this great Shout in the Camp of the Hebrews? And they understood that the ARK of the LORD was come into the Camp.

7 And the Philistines were afraid, for they said, God is come into the Camp, and they said, Wo unto us; for there hath not been such a Thing heretofore.

8 Wo unto us: who shall deliver us out of the Hand of these mighty Gods? these are the Gods that smote the EGYPTIANS with all the PLAGUES in the Wilderness.

10 And the Philistines fought, and Israel was smitten, and they fled every Man into his Tent: and there was a very great Slaughter, for there fell of Israel thirty thousand Footmen.

11 And the ARK of GOD was taken: and the two Sons of ELI, Hophni and Phinehas, were slain.

12 And there ran a Man of Benjamin out of the Army, and came to Shiloh the same Day with his Clothes rent, and with Earth upon his Head.

13 And when he came, lo, ELI sat upon a Seat by the Way-side, watching: for his Heart trembled for the ARK of GOD. And when the Man came into the City, and told it, all the City cried out.

14 And when ELI heard the Noise of the crying, he said, What meaneth the Noise of this Tumult? And the Man came in hastily, and told ELI.

15 Now ELI was ninety and eight Years old; and his Eyes were dim, that he could not see.

16 And the Man said unto ELI, I am he that came out of the Army, and I fled To-day out of the Army. And he said, What is there done, my Son?

17 And the Messenger answered and said, Israel is fled before the Philistines, and there hath been also a great Slaughter among the People, and thy two Sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ARK of GOD is taken.

18 And it came to pass, when he made mention of the ARK of GOD, that he fell from off the Seat backward by

* Psal. lxxviii. 58 They provoked him to Anger with their high Places, and moved him to Jealousy with their graven Images.

59 When God heard this, he was wroth, and greatly abhorred Israel:

60 So that he forsook the Tabernacle of SHILOH, the Tent which he placed among Men.

61 And DELIVERED his STRENGTH into CAPTIVITY, and his GLORY into the ENEMY'S HAND.

62 He gave his PEOPLE over also unto the SWORD, and was wroth with his Inheritance.

64 Their PRIESTS fell by the SWORD, and their Widows made no Lamentation.

the side of the Gate, and his Neck brake, and he died : for he was an old Man, and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty Years.

19 And his Daughter-in-law Phinehas's Wife was with Child near to be delivered : and when she heard the Tidings that the ARK of GOD was taken, and that her Father-in-law, and her Husband were dead, she bowed herself and travailed ; for her Pains came upon her.

20 And about the Time of her Death, the Women that stood by her, said unto her, Fear not, for thou hast born a Son. But she answered not, neither did she regard it.

21 And she named the Child I-chabod, saying, The GLORY is DEPARTED from ISRAEL : (because the ARK of GOD was taken, and because of her Father-in-law and her Husband)

22 And she said, The GLORY is DEPARTED from ISRAEL : for the ARK of GOD is taken.

C H A P. V.

1 *The Philistines bring the Ark into the House of Dagon. 3 Dagon falleth down. 6, 9, 12 They are smitten with Emerods.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the Philistines took the ARK of GOD, and brought it from Eben-ezer unto Ashdod.

2 When the Philistines took the ARK of GOD, they brought it into the House of Dagon, and set it by Dagon.

3 ¹ And when they of Ashdod arose early on the Morrow, behold, Dagon was fallen upon his Face to the Earth, before the ARK of the LORD : and they took Dagon, and set him in his Place again.

4 And the Head of Dagon, and both the Palms of his Hands were cut off upon the Threshold, only the Stump of Dagon was left to him.

5 Therefore neither the Priests of Dagon, nor any that come into Dagon's House, tread on the Threshold of Dagon.

¹ *Psal. xcvi. 5 All the Gods of the Nations are IDOLS : but the LORD made the HEAVENS.*

Psal. xcvi. 7 CONFOUNDED be all they that SERVE graven IMAGES, that BOAST themselves of IDOLS : worship him all ye Gods.

⁸ ZION heard, and was glad, and the Daughters of Judah rejoyced ; because of thy JUDGMENTS, O LORD.

⁹ For thou, LORD, art high, above all the EARTH : thou art EXALTED far above all Gods.

Psal. lxxvi. 1 Make a joyful Noise unto God, all ye Lands.

² Sing forth the Honour of his Name : make his Praise glorious.

³ Say unto God, How TERRIBLY art thou in thy WORKS ? through the GREATNESS of thy POWER, shall thine ENEMIES submit themselves unto thee.

6 But the Hand of the LORD was heavy upon them of Ashdod, and he destroyed them, and smote them with Emerods, even Ashdod and the Coasts thereof.

Jer. x. 11 Thus shall ye say unto them, The Gods that have not made the HEAVENS and the Earth, even they shall PERISH from the Earth, and from under these HEAVENS.

7 And when the Men of Ashdod saw that it was so, they said, the ARK of the GOD of ISRAEL shall not abide with us: for his Hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our God.

8 They sent therefore, and gathered all the Lords of the Philistines unto them, and said, What shall we do with the ARK of the GOD of ISRAEL? And they answered, Let the ARK of the GOD of ISRAEL be carried about unto Gath. And they carried the ARK of the GOD of ISRAEL about thither.

9 And it was so, that after they had carried it about, the Hand of the LORD was against the City with a very great Destruction: and he smote the Men of the City both small and great, and they had Emerods in their secret Parts.

Psal. lxxviii. 66 And he smote his Enemies in the hinder Parts: he put them to a perpetual Reproach.

10 Therefore they sent the ARK of GOD to Ekron: and it came to pass as the ARK of GOD came to Ekron, that the Ekronites cried out, saying, They have brought about the ARK of the GOD of ISRAEL to us, to slay us and our People.

11 So they sent and gathered together all the Lords of the Philistines, and said, Send away the ARK of the GOD of ISRAEL, and let it go again to his own Place, that it slay us not, and our People: for there was a deadly Destruction throughout all the City: the Hand of GOD was very heavy there.

12 And the Men that died not, were smitten with the Emerods: and the Cry of the City went up to Heaven.

CHAP. VI.

1 *The Philistines consult how to send back the Ark.* 10 *They bring it on a Cart to Beth-shemesh.* 19 *The People smitten.*

Ver. 1 AND the Ark of the LORD was in the Country of the Philistines seven Months.

2 And the Philistines called for the Priests and the Diviners,

ners, saying, What shall we do to the Ark of the LORD? tell us wherewith we shall send it to his Place.

3 And they said, If you send away the Ark of the God of Israel, send it not empty; but in any wise return him a Trespas-offering: then ye shall be healed, and it shall be known to you, why his Hand is not removed from you.

4 Then said they, What shall be the Trespas-offering which we shall return to him? They answered, Five golden Emerods, and five golden Mice, according to the Number of the Lords of the Philistines: for one Plague was on you all, and on your Lords.

5 Wherefore ye shall make Images of your Emerods, and Images of your Mice that mar the Land, and ye shall give glory unto the God of Israel: peradventure he will lighten his Hand from off you, and from off your Gods, and from off your Land.

6 Wherefore then do ye HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, as the EGYPTIANS and PHARAOH HARDNED their HEARTS? when he had wrought wonderfully among them, did they not let the People go, and they departed?

7 Now therefore make a new Cart, and take two Milch-kine on which there hath come no Yoke, and tie the Kine to the Cart, and bring their Calves home from them.

8 And take the Ark of the LORD, and lay it upon the Cart, and put the Jewels of Gold which ye return him for a Trespas-offering, in a Coffer by the side thereof, and send it away, that it may go.

9 And see, if it goeth up by the way of his own Coast to Beth-shemesh, then he hath done us this great Evil: but if not, then we shall know that it is not his Hand that smote us; it was a Chance that happened to us.

10 And the Men did so.

12 And the Kine took the straight Way to the Way of Beth-shemesh, and went along the Highway, lowing as they went; and the Lords of the Philistines went after them unto the Border of Beth-shemesh.

13 And they of Beth-shemesh were reaping their Wheat-harvest in the Valley: and they lifted up ther Eyes, and saw the Ark, and rejoiced to see it.

14 And the Cart came into the Field of Joshua a Bethshemite, and stood there, where there was a great Stone: and they clave the Wood of the Cart, and offered the Kine a Burnt-offering unto the LORD.

15 And

I S A M U E L. 359

15 And the Levites took down the Ark of the LORD, and the Coffer that was with it, wherein the Jewels of Gold were, and put them on the great Stone : and the Men of Beth-shemesh offered Burnt-offerings, and sacrificed Sacrifices the same Day unto the LORD.

16 And when the five Lords of the Philistines had seen it, they returned to Ekron the same Day.

17 And these are the golden Emerods which the Philistines returned for a Trespass-offering unto the LORD ; for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Askelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one.

18 And the golden Mice, according to the Number of all the Cities of the Philistines belonging to the five Lords, both of fenced Cities, and of Country Villages, even unto the great Stone of Abel, whereon they set down the Ark of the LORD : which Stone remaineth unto this Day, in the Field of Joshua the Beth-shemite.

19 And he smote the Men of Beth-shemesh, because they looked into the Ark of the LORD, even he smote of the People fifty thousand and threescore and ten Men : and the People lamented, because the LORD had smitten many of the People with a great Slaughter.

20 And the Men of Beth-shemesh said, Who is able to stand before this HOLY LORD GOD ? and to whom shall he go up from us ?

21 And they sent Messengers to the Inhabitants of Kirjath-jearim, saying, The Philistines have brought again the Ark of the LORD ; come ye down, and fetch it up to you.

C H A P. VII.

3 The Israelites, by Samuel's Means, solemnly repent at Mizpeh. 9 Samuel praying, 13 the Philistines are discomfited.

Ver. 15 **A**ND Samuel judged Israel all the Days of his Life.

16 And he went from Year to Year in Circuit to Beth-el, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those Places.

17 And his Return was to Ramah ; for there was his House : and there he judged Israel, and there he built an Altar unto the LORD.

C H A P.

C H A P. VIII.

1 *By the Occasion of the ill Government of Samuel's Sons, the Israelites ask a King.* 10 *The Manner of a King.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass when Samuel was old, that he made his Sons Judges over Israel.

2 Now the Name of his First-born was Joel, and the Name of his second, Abiah : they were Judges in Beer-sheba.

3 And his Sons walked not in his Ways, but TURNED aside after Lucre, and TOOK BRIBES, and PERVERTED JUDGMENT.

4 Then all the Elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah,

5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy Sons walk not in thy Ways : now make us a King to judge us like all the Nations.

6 But the Thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a King to judge us : and Samuel prayed unto the LORD.

7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the Voice of the People in all that they say unto thee : for they have not rejected thee, but they have REJECTED me, that I should not REIGN OVER THEM.

8 According to all the Works which they have done since the Day that I brought them up out of Egypt, even unto this Day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other Gods : so do they also unto thee.

9 Now therefore hearken unto their Voice : howbeit, yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the Manner of the King that shall reign over them.

10 And Samuel told all the Words of the LORD unto the People, that asked of him a King.

11 And he said, This will be the Manner of the King that shall reign over you : He will take your SONS, and appoint them for himself, for his Chariots, and to be his Horsemen, and some shall RUN before his Chariots.

12 And he will appoint him CAPTAINS over Thousands, and Captains over Fifties, and will set of them to ear his Ground, and to reap his Harvest, and to make his Instruments of War, and Instruments of his Chariots.

13 And

I. S A M U E L. 361

13 And he will take your DAUGHTERS to be Confectionaries, and to be Cooks, and to be Bakers.

14 And he will take your FIELDS, and your Vineyards, and your Olive-yards, even the BEST of them, and GIVE them to his SERVANTS.

15 And he will take the TENTH of your SEED, and of your Vineyards, and GIVE to his OFFICERS, and to his Servants.

16 And he will take your Men-servants, and your Maid-servants, and your goodliest Young Men, and your Asses, and put them to his Work.

17 He will take the Tenth of your Sheep: and ye shall be his Servants.

18 And ye shall CRY out in that Day, because of your KING which ye shall have CHOSEN you; and the LORD will not hear you in that Day.

19 Nevertheless, the People REFUSED to obey the VOICE of Samuel; and they said, Nay, but we will have a King over us.

20 That we also may be LIKE all the NATIONS, and that our King may judge us, and go out before us, and FIGHT our Battles.

21 And Samuel heard all the Words of the People, and he rehearsed them in the Ears of the LORD.

22 And the LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their Voice, and make them a King. And Samuel said unto the Men of Israel, Go ye every Man unto his City.

C H A P. IX.

1 Saul despairing to find his Father's Asses, 6 by the Counsel of his Servants, 11 and Direction of young Maidens, 15 according to GOD's Revelation, 18 cometh to Samuel: 19 Samuel entertaineth him at the Feast,

C H A P. X.

1 Samuel anointeth Saul, 2 and confirmeth him by a Prediction of three Signs. 9 Saul's Heart is changed: 17 He is chosen by Lot.

Ver. 1 SAMUEL took a Vial of Oyl, and poured it upon the Head of Saul, and kissed him, and said, Is it
A a a not

not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be Captain over his Inheritance?

2 When thou art departed from me To-day, then thou shalt find two Men by Rachel's Sepulchre: and they will say unto thee, The Asses which thou wentest to seek are found.

5 After that, thou shalt come to the Hill of God, where is the Garison of the Philistines: and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the City, that thou shalt meet a Company of Prophets coming down from the High Place, with a Psaltery, and a Tabret, and a Pipe, and a Harp before them, and they shall prophesy.

6 And the SPIRIT of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt PROPHESY with them, and shalt be TURNED INTO ANOTHER MAN.

7 And let it be when these Signs are come unto thee, that thou do as Occasion shall serve thee, for GOD is WITH THEE.

9 * And it was so, that when he had turned his Back to go from Samuel, GOD gave him ANOTHER HEART: and all those Signs came to pass that Day.

* *Exst. xxxvi. 26* A new Heart also will I give you, and a new Spirit will I put within you.

10 And when they came thither to the Hill, behold, a Company of Prophets met him, and the SPIRIT of GOD came upon him, and he prophesied among them.

11 And it came to pass when all that knew him before-time, saw that behold he prophesied among the Prophets, then the People said one to another, What is this that is come unto the Son of Kish? Is Saul also among the Prophets?

12 Therefore it became a Proverb, Is Saul also among the Prophets?

13 And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the High Place.

17 And Samuel called the People together unto the LORD to Mizpeh;

18 And said unto the Children of Israel, Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the Hand of the Egyptians, and out of the Hand of all Kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you.

19 And ye have this Day REJECTED your GOD, who himself

himself **SAVED** you out of all your Adversities, and your Tribulations : and you have said unto him, Nay, but set a King over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the **LORD** by your Tribes, and by your Thousands.

20 And when Samuel had caused all the Tribes of Israel to come near, the Tribe of Benjamin was taken.

21 When he had caused the Tribe of Benjamin to come near by their Families, the Family of Matri was taken, and Saul the Son of Kish was taken : and when they sought him, he could not be found.

22 Therefore they enquired of the **LORD** further, if the Man should yet come thither : and the **LORD** answered, Behold, he hath hid himself among the Stuff.

23 And they ran and fetched him thence : and when he stood among the People, he was higher than any of the People from his Shoulders and upwards.

24 And Samuel said to all the People, See ye him whom the **LORD** hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the People ? And all the People shouted, and said, God save the King.

25 Then Samuel told the People the Manner of the Kingdom, and wrote it in a Book, and laid it up before the **LORD**.

26 And Saul went home to Gibeah, and there went with him a Band of Men, whose Hearts **GOD** had touched.

27 But the Children of Belial said, How shall this Man save us ? And they despised him, and brought him no Presents : but he held his Peace.

C H A P. XII.

1 *Samuel testifieth his Integrity : 6 He reproveth the People of Ingratitude : 16 He terrifieth them with Thunder in Harvest-time, 20 and comforteth them in GOD's Mercy.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND Samuel said unto all Israel, Behold, I have hearkned unto your Voice in all that ye said unto me, and I have made a King over you.

2 And now behold, the King walketh before you : and I am old, and gray-headed, and behold, my Sons are with you : and I have walked before you from my Childhood unto this Day.

A 2 2 2

3 Behold,

3 Behold, here I am, witness against me before the LORD, and before his Anointed : whose Ox have I taken ? or whose Ass have I taken ? or whom have I defrauded ? whom have I oppressed ? or of whose Hand have I received any BRIBE to BLIND mine EYES therewith ? and I will restore it you.

4 And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any Man's Hand.

5 And he said unto them, The LORD is Witness against you, and his Anointed is Witness this Day, that ye have not found ought in my Hand. And they answered, He is Witness.

6 And Samuel said unto the People, It is the LORD that advanced MOSES and AARON, and that brought your Fathers up out of the Land of Egypt.

7 Now therefore stand still, that I may reason with you before the LORD of all the RIGHTEOUS ACTS of the LORD, which he did to you and to your Fathers.

8 When JACOB was come into Egypt, and your Fathers cried unto the LORD, then the LORD sent MOSES and AARON, which brought forth your Fathers out of Egypt, and made them dwell in this Place.

9 And when they forgot the LORD their God, he sold them into the Hand of Sisera, Captain of the Host of Hazor, and into the Hand of the Philistines, and into the Hand of the King of Moab, and they fought against them.

10 And they cried unto the LORD, and said, We have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD, and have served Baalim and Ashtaroth : but now deliver us out of the Hand of our Enemies, and we will serve thee.

11 And the LORD sent Jerubbaal, and Badan, and Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the Hand of your Enemies on every side, and ye dwelled safe.

12 And when ye saw that Nahash the King of the Children of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me, Nay, but a King shall reign over us ; when the LORD your God was your KING.

13 Now therefore, behold the King whom ye have chosen, and whom ye have desired : and behold, the LORD hath set a King over you.

14 If ye will FEAR the LORD, and SERVE him, and OBEY his VOICE, and not rebel against the Commandment
of

I. S A M U E L. 365

of the LORD, then shall both ye, and also the King that reigneth over you, continue following the LORD your GOD.

15 But if ye will not OBEY the VOICE of the LORD, but rebel against the Commandment of the LORD, then shall the Hand of the LORD be against you, as it was against your Fathers.

16 Now therefore stand and see this great Thing which the LORD will do before your Eyes.

17 Is it not Wheat-harvest To-day? I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send Thunder and Rain: that ye may perceive and see that your Wickedness is great, which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a King.

18 So Samuel called unto the LORD, and the LORD sent THUNDER and Rain that Day: and all the People greatly FEARED the LORD and Samuel.

19 And all the People said unto Samuel, Pray for thy Servants unto the LORD thy GOD, that we DIE not: for we have added unto all our Sins, this EVIL, to ASK us a KING.

20 And Samuel said unto the People, Fear not: (ye have done all this Wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but SERVE the LORD with ALL your HEART.

21 And turn ye not aside: for then should ye go after vain Things, which cannot profit nor deliver, for they are vain.)

22 For the LORD will not FORSAKE his People, for his great NAME'S SAKE: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his People.

23 Moreover, as for me, GOD forbid that I should sin against the LORD, in CEASING TO PRAY for you: but I will teach you the good and the right Way.

24 Only fear the LORD, and SERVE HIM in TRUTH with ALL your HEART: for CONSIDER how GREAT Things he hath DONE for you.

25 But if ye shall still DO WICKEDLY, ye shall be CONSUMED, both YE and your KING.

C H A P. XIII.

1 *Saul's selected Band.* 5 *The Philistines great Host.* 6 *The Israelites Distress.* 8 *Saul weary of staying for Samuel, sacrificeth.* 11 *Samuel reproveth him.*

C H A P.

C H A P. XIV.

1 Jonathan miraculously smiteth the Philistines Garison. 15 A divine Terrour maketh them beat themselves. 24 Saul's unadvised Adjuration hindreth the Victory. 36 Jonathan saved by the People.

Ver. 1 **N**OW it came to pass upon a Day, that Jonathan the Son of Saul said unto the young Man that bear his Armour, Come, and let us go over to the Philistines Garison, that is on the other side : but he told not his Father.

4 And between the Passages by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines Garison, there was a sharp Rock on the one side, and a sharp Rock on the other side.

6 And Jonathan said to the young Man that bare his Armour, Come, and let us go over to the Garison of these Uncircumcised ; it may be that the LORD will work for us : for there is no Restraint to the LORD to save by **MANY** or by **FEW**.

8 Jonathan said, Behold, we will pass over unto these Men, and we will discover ourselves unto them.

9 If they say thus unto us, Tarry until we come to you ; then we will stand still in our Place, and will not go up unto them.

10 But if they say thus, Come up unto us ; then we will go up : for the LORD hath delivered them into our Hand ; and this shall be a Sign unto us.

11 And both of them discovered themselves unto the Garison of the Philistines : and the Philistines said, Behold, the Hebrews come forth out of the Holes, where they had hid themselves.

12 And the Men of the Garison answered Jonathan, and said, Come up to us, and we will shew you a Thing. And Jonathan said unto his Armour-bearer, Come up after me ; for the LORD hath **DELIVERED** them into the Hand of Israel.

13 And Jonathan climbed up upon his Hands, and upon his Feet, and his Armour-bearer after him : and they fell before Jonathan ; and his Armour-bearer slew after him.

14 And that first Slaughter which Jonathan and his Armour-bearer made, was about twenty Men.

15 And

15 And there was trembling in the Host, and among all the People ; and the EARTH QUAKED : so it was a very great TREMBLING.

16 And the Watchmen of Saul looked ; and behold, the Multitude melted away, and they went on beating down one another.

17 Then said Saul, Number now, and see who is gone from us. And when they had numbred, behold, Jonathan and his Armour-bearer were not there.

18 And Saul said unto Ahiah, Bring hither the Ark of Gop.

19 And it came to pass while Saul talked unto the Priest, that the Noise that was in the Host of the Philistines went on, and increased.

20 And Saul, and all the People came to the Battle : and behold, every Man's Sword was against his Fellow, and there was a very great Discomfiture.

21 Moreover, the Hebrews that were with the Philistines before that Time, they also turned to be with the Israelites.

22 Likewise all the Men of Israel which had hid themselves, when they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the Battle.

23 So the LORD SAVED Israel that Day.

24 And the Men of Israel were distressed that Day : for Saul had adjured the People, saying, Cursed be the Man that eateth any Food until Evening, that I may be avenged on mine Enemies : so none of the People tasted any Food.

25 And all they of the Land came to a Wood, and there was Honey upon the Ground.

26 But no Man put his Hand to his Mouth : for the People feared the Oath.

27 But Jonathan heard not when his Father charged the People with the Oath : wherefore he put forth the End of the Rod that was in his Hand, and dipt it in an Honeycomb, and put his Hand to his Mouth ; and his Eyes were enlightned.

28 Then answered one of the People, and said, Thy Father straitly charged the People with an Oath, saying, Cursed be the Man that eateth any Food this Day. And the People were faint.

29 Then said Jonathan, My Father hath TROUBLED the Land : see, I pray you, how mine Eyes have been enlightned, because I tasted a little of this Honey :

30 How

30 How much more, if haply the People had eaten freely To-day of the Spoil of their Enemies which they found? for had there not been now a much greater Slaughter among the Philistines?

31 And they smote the Philistines that Day: and the People were very faint.

32 And the People flew upon the Spoil, and took Sheep, and Oxen, and Calves, and slew them on the Ground: and the People did eat them with the Blood.

33 Then they told Saul, saying, Behold, the People sin against the LORD, in that they eat with the Blood. And he said, Ye have transgressed: roll a great Stone unto me this Day.

34 And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the People, and say unto them, Bring me hither every Man his Ox, and every Man his Sheep, and slay them here, and eat; and sin not against the LORD in eating with the Blood.

35 And Saul built an Altar unto the LORD: the same was the first Altar that he built unto the LORD.

37 And Saul asked Counsel of GOD, Shall I go down after the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into the Hand of Israel? But he answered him not that Day.

38 And Saul said, Draw ye near hither all the chief of the People: and know and see wherein this Sin hath been this Day.

39 For as the LORD liveth, which saveth Israel, though it be in Jonathan my Son, he shall surely die. But there was not a Man among all the People that answered him.

40 Then said he unto all Israel, Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my Son will be on the other side. And the People said unto Saul, Do what seemeth good unto thee.

41 Therefore Saul said unto the LORD GOD of Israel, Give a perfect Lot. And Saul and Jonathan were taken.

42 And Saul said, Cast Lots between me and Jonathan my Son. And Jonathan was taken.

43 Then Saul said to Jonathan, Tell me what thou hast done. And Jonathan told him, and said, I did but taste a little Honey with the End of the Rod that was in mine Hand, and lo, I must die.

44 And Saul answered, God do so, and more also: for thou shalt surely die.

45 And

I. S A M U E L: 369

45 And the People said unto Saul, Shall Jonathan die, who hath wrought this great Salvation in Israel? God forbid: as the LORD liveth, there shall not one Hair of his Head fall to the Ground; for he hath wrought with God this Day. So the People rescued Jonathan that he died not.

47 Saul took the Kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his Enemies on every side: and whithersoever he turned himself, he vexed them.

48 And delivered Israel out of the Hands of them that spoiled them.

52 And there was sore War against the Philistines all the Days of Saul: and when Saul saw any strong Man, or any valiant Man, he took him unto him.

C H A P. XV.

1 Samuel sendeth Saul to destroy Amalek: 8 He spareth Agag and the best of the Spoil. 32 Samuel killeth Agag.

Ver. 10 **T**HEN came the Word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

11 It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be King: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my Commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all Night.

12 And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the Morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel.

13 And Samuel came to Saul; and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the LORD: I have performed the Commandment of the LORD.

14 And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the Sheep in mine Ears, and the lowing of the Oxen which I hear?

15 And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the People spared the best of the Sheep and of the Oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God, and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

16 Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this Night. And he said unto him, Say on.

17 And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the Head of the Tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee King over Israel?

B b b

18 And

18 And the LORD sent thee on a Journey, and said, Go, and utterly destroy the Sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

19 Wherefore then didst thou not obey the Voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the Spoil, and didst Evil in the sight of the LORD?

20 And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the Voice of the LORD, and have gone the Way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the King of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

21 But the People took of the Spoil, Sheep and Oxen, the Chief of the Things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.

22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great Delight in Burnt-offerings and Sacrifices, as in obeying the Voice of the LORD? Behold, to OBEY is better than Sacrifice; and to hearken, than the Fat of Rams.

23 For Rebellion is as the Sin of Witchcraft, and Stubbornness is as Iniquity and Idolatry; because thou hast rejected the Word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being King.

C H A P. XVI.

1 Samuel sent by GOD, under Pretence of a Sacrifice, cometh to Beth-lehem, 11 and anointeth David. 19 Saul's Evil Spirit.

Ver. 1 **A**ND the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine Horn with Oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Beth-lehemite: for I have provided me a King among his Sons.

2 And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an Heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.

3 And call Jesse to the Sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee.

4 And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Beth-lehem: and the Elders of the Town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?

5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto
the

the LORD : sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the Sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his Sons, and called them to the Sacrifice.

6 And it came to pass when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD's Anointed is before him.

7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his Countenance, or on the Height of his Stature ; because I have refused him : for the LORD seeth not as Man seeth ; for Man looketh on the outward Appearance, but the LORD looketh on the Heart.

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel : and he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.

9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by : and he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this.

10 Again, Jesse made seven of his Sons to pass before Samuel : and Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy Children ? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and behold, he keepeth the Sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him : for we will not sit down till he come hither.

12 And he sent and brought him in : Now he was RUD-
DY, and withal of a BEAUTIFUL COUNTENANCE, and
goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him,
for this is he. .

13 Then Samuel took the Horn of Oil, and anointed
him in the midst of his Brethren : and the Spirit of the
LORD came upon David, from that Day forward : so Sa-
muel rose up and went to Ramah.

14 But the SPIRIT of the LORD DEPARTED from Saul,
and an EVIL SPIRIT from the LORD troubled him.

15 And Saul's Servants said unto him, Behold now, an
evil Spirit from GOD troubleth thee.

16 Let our Lord now command thy Servants which are
before thee, to seek out a Man who is a cunning Player on
an HARP : and it shall come to pass when the EVIL SPIRIT
from GOD is upon thee, that he shall play with his Hand,
and thou shalt be well.

17 And Saul said unto his Servants, Provide me now a
Man that can play well, and bring him to me.

18 Then answered one of the Servants, and said, Behold,

B b b 3

I have

I have seen a Son of Jesse the Beth-lehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant Man, and a Man of War, and prudent in Matters, and a comely Person, and the LORD is with him.

19 Wherefore Saul sent Messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy Son, which is with the Sheep.

20 And Jesse took an Ass laden with Bread, and a Bottle of Wine, and a Kid, and sent them by David his Son unto Saul.

21 And David came to Saul, and stood before him; and he loved him greatly, and he became his Armour-bearer.

22 And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray thee, stand before me: for he hath found Favour in my sight.

23 And it came to pass, when the EVIL SPIRIT from GOD was upon Saul, that David took an HARP, and played with his Hand: so Saul was REFRESHED, and was well, and the EVIL SPIRIT departed from him.

C H A P. XVII.

1 *The Armies of the Israelites and Philistines being ready to Battle, 4 Goliath cometh proudly forth to challenge a Combat: 12 David sent by his Father to visit his Brethren, accepteth his Challenge, 38 and killeth him.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW the Philistines gathered together their Armies to Battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim.

2 And Saul and the Men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched by the Valley of Elah, and set the Battle in array against the Philistines.

3 And the Philistines stood on a Mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a Mountain on the other side:

PSALM IX.

To the Chief Musician upon Muth-labben, a Psalm of David

This Psalm is supposed to be penn'd by David upon his Victory over Goliath.

Ver. 1 **I** Will PRAISE thee, O LORD, with my whole Heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous Works.

2 I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing Praise to thy Name, O thou most High.

3 When mine Enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy Presence.

4 For thou hast MAINTAINED my RIGHT and my CAUSE, thou satest in the THRONE judging RIGHT.

5 Thou hast REBUKED the Heathen, thou hast DESTROYED the Wicked, thou hast put out their Name for ever and ever.

6 O thou Enemy, DESTRUCTION and

and there was a Valley between them.

4 And there went out a Champion out of the Camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose Height was fix Cubits and a Span.

5 And he had an Helmet of Bräfs upon his Head, and he was armed with a Coat of Mail : and the Weight of the Coat was five thousand Shekels of Bräfs.

6 And he had Greaves of Bräfs upon his Legs, and a Target of Bräfs between his Shoulders.

7 And the Staff of his Spear was like a Weaver's Beam, and his Spear's Head weighed fix hundred Shekels of Iron : and One bearing a Shield went before him.

8 And he stood and cried unto the Armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your Battle in aray ? Am not I a Philistine, and you Servants to Saul ? chuse you a Man for you, and let him come down to me.

9 If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your Servants : but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our Servants, and serve us.

10 And the Philistine said, I defie the Armies of Israel this Day ; give me a Man, that we may fight together.

11 When Saul and all Israel heard those Words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

are come to a PERPETUAL END : and thou hast destroyed Cities, their Memorial is perished with them.

7 But the LORD shall endure for ever : he hath prepared his THRONE for JUDGMENT

8 And he shall judge the WORLD in RIGHTEOUSNESS, he shall MINISTER Judgment to the PEOPLE in UPRIGHTNESS.

9 The LORD also will be a REFUGE for the OPPRESSED, a REFUGE in Times of Trouble.

10 And they that KNOW thy NAME will put their Trust in thee : for thou, LORD, hast not FORSAKEN them that SEEK thee.

11 Sing PRAISES to the LORD, which dwelleth in ZION : declare among the People his Doings.

12 When he maketh INQUIRY for Blood, he remembereth them : he forgetteth not the Cry of the HUMBLE.

13 Have Mercy upon me, O LORD, consider my Trouble which I suffer of them that hate me, thou that LIFTEST me up from the GATES of DEATH :

14 That I may shew forth all thy Praise in the Gates of the Daughter of Zion : I will rejoyce in thy Salvation.

15 The Heathen are sunk down in the Pit that they made : in the Net which they hid, is their own Foot taken.

16 The LORD is known by the Judgment which he executeth : the Wicked is snared in the Work of his own Hands.

17 The Wicked shall be turned into Hell, and all the Nations that forget God.

18 For the Needy shall not alway be forgotten : the Expectation of the Poor shall not perish for ever.

19 Arise, O LORD, let not Man prevail, let the Heathen be judged in thy fight.

20 Put them in fear, O LORD : that the Nations may know themselves to be but Men.

12 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Beth-lehem-judah, whose name was Jesse, and he had eight sons: and the Man went among Men for an old Man in the Days of Saul.

13 And the three eldest sons of Jesse went, and followed Saul to the Battle: and the Names of his three Sons that went to the Battle, were Eliab the first-born, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

14 And David was the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul.

15 But David went and returned from Saul to feed his Father's Sheep at Beth-lehem.

16 And the Philistine drew near Morning and Evening, and presented himself forty Days.

17 And Jesse said unto David his Son, Take now for thy Brethren, an Ephah of this parched Corn, and these ten Loaves, and run to the Camp to thy Brethren.

18 And carry these ten Cheeses unto the Captain of their thousand, and look how thy Brethren fare, and take their Pledge,

19 Now Saul, and they, and all the Men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

20 And David rose up early in the Morning, and left the Sheep with a Keeper, and took and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the Trench, as the Host was going forth to the Fight, and shouted for the Battle.

21 For Israel and the Philistines had put the Battle in array, Army against Army.

22 And David left his Carriage in the Hand of the Keeper of the Carriage, and ran into the Army, and came and saluted his Brethren.

23 And as he talked with them, behold there came up the Champion, (the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by Name) out of the Armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same Words: and David heard them.

24 And all the Men of Israel, when they saw the Man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

25 And the Men of Israel said, Have ye seen this Man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be that the Man who killeth him, the King will enrich him with great Riches, and will give him his Daughter, and make his Father's House free in Israel.

26 And David spake to the Men that stood by him, saying,

ing, What shall be done to the Man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the Reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the Armies of the LIVING GOD?

27 And the People answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the Man that killeth him.

28 And Eliab his eldest Brother heard when he spake unto the Men; and Eliab's Anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few Sheep in the Wilderness? I know thy Pride, and the Naughtiness of thine Heart: for thou art come down, that thou mightest see the Battle.

29 And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a Cause?

30 And he turned from him towards another, and spake after the same manner: and the People answered him again after the former manner.

31 And when the Words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.

32 And David said to Saul, Let no Man's Heart fail because of him; thy Servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

33 And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine, to fight with him: for thou art but a Youth, and he a Man of War from his youth.

34 And David said unto Saul, Thy Servant kept his Father's Sheep, and there came a LION, and a BEAR, and took a LAMB out of the Flock:

35 And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his Mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his Beard, and smote him, and slew him.

36 * Thy Servant slew both the LION and the BEAR: and this uncircumcised PHILISTINE shall be as one of them, seeing he hath DEFIED the Armies of the LIVING GOD.

* *John 1. 28* I give unto them ETERNAL LIFE; and they shall never PERISH, neither shall any pluck them out of my Hand.

29 My FATHER which gave THEM me, is GREATER than all: and none is able to pluck them out of my Father's Hand.

37 David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the Paw of the Lion, and out of the Paw of the Bear, he will deliver me out of the Hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

38 And

38 And Saul armed David with his Armour, and he put an Helmet of Bräs upon his Head, and also he armed him with a Coat of Mail.

39 And David girded his Sword upon his Armour, and he assayed to go, for he had not proved it : and David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these : for I have not proved them. And David put them off him.

40 And he took his Staff in his Hand, and chose him five smooth Stones out of the Brook, and put them in a Shepherd's Bag which he had, even in a Scrip, and his Sling was in his Hand, and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 And the Philistine came on, and drew near unto David, and the Man that bare the Shield went before him.

42 And when the Philistine looked about and saw David, he disdained him : for he was but a Youth, and ruddy, and of a fair Countenance.

43 And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a Dog, that thou comest to me with Staves ? and the Philistine cursed David by his Gods.

44 And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy Flesh unto the Fowls of the Air, and to the Beasts of the Field.

45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a Sword, and with a Spear, and with a Shield ; but I come to thee in the Name of the LORD of Hosts, the GOD of the ARMIES of ISRAEL, whom thou hast defied.

46 This Day will the LORD deliver thee into mine Hand, and I will smite thee, and take thine Head from thee, and I will give the Carcases of the Host of the Philistines this Day unto the Fowls of the Air, and to the Wild Beasts of the Earth ; that all the Earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

47 And all this Assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with Sword and Spear : for the Battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our Hands.

48 And it came to pass when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hastened, and ran toward the Army to meet the Philistine.

49 And David put his Hand in his Bag, and took thence a Stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his Forehead, that the Stone sunk into his Forehead ; and he fell upon his Face to the Earth.

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a Sling and with a Stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no Sword in the Hand of David.

51 Therefore David ran and stood upon the Philistine, and took his Sword, and drew it out of the Sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his Head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their Champion was dead, they fled.

52 And the Men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines until thou come to the Valley, and to the Gates of Ekron: and the Wounded of the Philistines fell down by the Way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron.

53 And the Children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their Tents.

54 And David took the Head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his Armour in his Tent.

55 And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner the Captain of the Host, Abner, whose Son is this Youth? and Abner said, As thy Soul liveth, O King, I cannot tell.

56 And the King said, Enquire thou whose Son the Stripling is.

57 And as David returned from the Slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with the Head of the Philistine in his Hand.

58 And Saul said to him, Whose Son art thou, thou young Man? And David answered, I am the Son of thy Servant Jesse the Beth-lehemite.

C H A P. XVIII.

1 Jonathan loveth David: 5 Saul envying his Praise, 10 seeketh to kill him in his Fury: 12 Fearing him for his good Success, 17 he offereth him his Daughter for a Snare.

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the Soul of Jonathan was knit with the Soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own Soul.

2 And Saul took him that Day, and would let him go no more home to his Father's House.

C c c 3 Then

3 Then Jonathan and David made a Covenant, because he loved him as his own Soul.

4 And Jonathan stript himself of the Robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his Garments, even to his Sword, and to his Bow, and to his Girdle.

5 And David went out whithersoever Saul sent him, and behaved himself wisely : and Saul set him over the Men of War, and he was accepted in the fight of all the People, and also in the fight of Saul's Servants.

6 And it came to pass as they came, when David was returned from the Slaughter of the Philistine, that the WOMEN came out of all Cities of Israel SINGING and DANCING, to meet King Saul, with Tabrets, with Joy, and with Instruments of Musick.

7 And the Women answered one another as they played, and said, SAUL hath slain his THOUSANDS, and DAVID his TEN THOUSANDS.

8 And Saul was very wroth, and the Saying displeased him ; and he said, They have ascribed unto David Ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but Thousands : and what can he have more but the Kingdom ?

9 And Saul eyed David from that Day and forward.

10 And it came to pass on the Morrow, that the evil Spirit from GOD came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the House : and David played with his Hand, as at other Times : and there was a Javelin in Saul's Hand.

11 And Saul cast the Javelin ; for he said, I will smite David even to the Wall with it : and David avoided out of his Presence twice.

12 And Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, and was departed from Saul.

13 Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him his Captain over a thousand : and he went out and came in before the People.

14 And David behaved himself wisely in all his Ways ; and the LORD was with him.

15 Wherefore when Saul saw that he behaved himself very wisely, he was afraid of him.

16 But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

17 And Saul said to David, Behold, my elder Daughter Merab, her will I give thee to Wife : only be thou valiant for me, and fight the LORD's Battles ; for Saul said, Let not mine

I. S A M U E L. 379

mine Hand be upon him, but let the Hand of the Philistines be upon him.

18 And David said unto Saul, Who am I? and what is my Life, or my Father's Family in Israel, that I should be Son-in-law to the King?

19 But it came to pass, at the Time when Merab Saul's Daughter should have been given to David, that she was given unto Adriel the Meholathite to Wife.

20 And Michal Saul's Daughter loved David: and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

21 And Saul said, I will give him her, that she may be a Snare to him, and that the Hand of the Philistines may be against him. Wherefore Saul said to David, Thou shalt this Day be my Son-in-law, in the one of the twain.

22 And Saul commanded his Servants, saying, Commune with David secretly, and say, Behold, the King hath Delight in thee, and all his Servants love thee: now therefore be the King's Son-in-law.

23 And Saul's Servants spake those Words in the Ears of David: and David said, Seemeth it to you a light Thing to be a King's Son-in-law, seeing that I am a poor Man, and lightly esteemed?

24 And the Servants of Saul told him, saying, On this manner spake David.

25 And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The King desireth not any Dowry; but an hundred Foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the King's Enemies. But Saul thought to make David fall by the Hand of the Philistines.

26 And when his Servants told David these Words, it pleased David well to be the King's Son-in-law: and the Days were not expired.

27 Wherefore David arose, and went, he and his Men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred Men; and David brought their Foreskins, and they gave them in full Tale to the King, that he might be the King's Son-in-law: and Saul gave him Michal his Daughter to Wife.

28 And Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal Saul's Daughter loved him.

29 And Saul was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul became David's Enemy continually.

30 Then the Princes of the Philistines went forth: and it came to pass after they went forth, that David behaved

C c c 2 himself

himself more wisely than all the Servants of Saul, so that his Name was much set by.

C H A P. XIX.

1 Jonathan discloseth his Father's Purpose to kill David : 4 He persuadeth his Father to Reconciliation. 8 By reason of David's good Success in a new War, Saul's malicious Rage breaketh out against him. 12 Michal's Stratagem.

Ver. 1 **A**ND Saul spake to Jonathan his Son, and to all his Servants, that they should kill David.

2 But Jonathan delighted much in David : and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my Father seeketh to kill thee : now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the Morning, and abide in a secret Place, and hide thyself.

3 And I will commune with my Father of thee ; and what I see, that I will tell thee.

4 And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul, and said, Let not the King SIN against his Servant, against David : because he hath not SINNED against thee, and because his Works have been to thee-ward very good.

5 For he did put his LIFE in his Hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great SALVATION for all Israel : thou sawest it, and didst rejoice : wherefore then wilt thou SIN against INNOCENT BLOOD to slay DAVID without a Cause?

P S A L. LIX.

To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, Michtam of David : when SAUL sent, and they watched the House to KILL him.

DELIVER me from mine Enemies, O my God : defend me from them that rise up against me.

2 DELIVER me from the Workers of Iniquity, and save me from BLOODY MEN.

3 For lo, they lie in WAIT for my SOUL ; the Mighty are gathered against me ; not for my TRANSGRESSION, nor for my SIN, O LORD.

4 They run and prepare themselves without my Fault ; awake to help me, and behold.

5 Thou therefore, O LORD God of Hosts, the God of Israel, awake to visit all the Heathen : be not merciful to any WICKED Transgressors.

6 They return at Evening : they make a Noise like a Dog, and go round about the City.

7 Behold, they belch out with their Mouth : Swords are in their Lips ; for who (say they) doth hear.

8 But thou, O LORD, shalt laugh at them ; thou shalt have all the Heathen in Derision.

9 Because of his STRENGTH will I WAIT upon thee : for GOD is my DEFENCE.

10 The God of my Mercy shall prevent me : GOD shall let me see my Desire upon mine Enemies.

11 Slay them not, lest my People forget : scatter them by thy POWER ; and bring them down, O LORD our SHIELD.

12 For the Sin of their Mouths, and the Words of their Lips, let them even be taken in their PRIDE : and for CURSING and LYING which they speak.

6 And

6 And Saul hearkned unto the Voice of Jonathan : and Saul sware, as the LORD liveth he shall not be slain.

7 And Jonathan shewed him all those Things : and brought David to Saul, and he was in his Presence as in Times past.

8 And there was War again : and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great Slaughter : and they fled from him.

9 And the EVIL SPIRIT from the LORD was upon Saul, as he sat in his House with his Javelin in his Hand : and David played with his Hand.

10 And Saul sought to smite David even to the Wall with the Javelin ; but he slipt away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the Javelin into the Wall : and David fled, and escaped that Night.

11 Saul also sent Messengers unto David's House, to watch him, and to slay him in the Morning : and Michal David's Wife told him, saying, If thou save not thy Life To-night, To-morrow thou shalt be slain.

12 So Michal let David down through a Window : and he went and fled, and escaped.

13 And Michal took an Image, and laid it in the Bed, and put a Pillow of Goat's Hair for his Bolster, and covered it with a Cloth.

14 And when Saul sent Messengers to take David, she said, He is sick.

15 And Saul sent the Messengers again to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the Bed, that I may slay him.

16 And when the Messengers were come in, behold, there was an Image in the Bed.

17 And Saul said unto Michal, Why hast thou deceived me so, and sent away mine Enemy, that he is escaped ? and Michal answered Saul, He said unto me, Let me go ; why should I kill thee ?

18 So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah,

13 Consume them in Wrath, consume them, that they may not be : and let them know that GOD RULETH in Jacob unto the ENDS of the Earth.

14 And at Evening let them return, and let them make a Noise like a Dog, and go round about the City.

15 Let them wander up and down for Meat, and grudge if they be not satisfied.

16 But I will sing of thy Power, yea, I will sing aloud of thy MERCY in the Morning : for thou hast been my DEFENCE and REFUGE in the Day of my Trouble.

17 Unto thee, O my STRENGTH, will I sing, for GOD is my DEFENCE, and the GOD of my MERCY.

Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him : and he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth.

19 And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.

20 And Saul sent Messengers to take David : and when they saw the Company of the Prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the SPIRIT of GOD was upon the Messengers of Saul; and they also prophesied.

21 And when it was told Saul, he sent other Messengers, and they PROPHESED likewise : and Saul sent Messengers again the third time, and they PROPHESED also.

23 Then went he also to Naioth in Ramah : and the SPIRIT of GOD was upon him also, and he went on and prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah :

24 And he stript off his Clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that Day and all that Night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the Prophets ?

C H A P. XX.

1 *David consulteth with Jonathan for his Safety : 11 Their Covenant renewed by Oath. 24 Saul missing David, seeketh to kill Jonathan.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and came and said before Jonathan, What have I done ? what is mine Iniquity ? and what is my SIN before thy Father, that he SEEKETH my LIFE ?

2 And he said unto him, GOD forbid ; thou shalt not die : behold, my Father will do nothing either great or small, but that he will shew it me : and why should my Father hide this Thing from me ? it is not so.

3 And David sware moreover, and said, Thy Father certainly knoweth that I have found Grace in thine Eyes ; and he saith, Let not Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved : but truly as the LORD liveth, and as thy Soul liveth, there is but a Step between me and Death.

4 Then said Jonathan unto David, Whatsoever thy Soul desireth, I will even do it for thee.

5 And David said unto Jonathan, Behold, To-morrow is the New Moon, and I should not fail to sit with the King
at

I. S A M U E L. 383

at Meat : but let me go, that I may hide myself in the Field unto the third Day at Even.

6 If thy Father at all miss me, then say, David earnestly asked Leave of me, that he might run to Beth-lehem his City : for there is a yearly Sacrifice there for all the Family.

7 If he say thus, It is well ; thy Servant shall have Peace : but if he be very wroth, then be sure that Evil is determined by him.

8 Therefore thou shalt deal kindly with thy Servant ; for thou hast brought thy Servant into a Covenant of the LORD with thee : notwithstanding, if there be in me INIQUITY, slay me thyself ; for why shouldst thou bring me to thy Father? .

9 And Jonathan said, Far be it from thee : for if I knew certainly, that Evil were determined by my Father to come upon thee, then would not I tell it thee?

10 Then said David to Jonathan, Who shall tell me? or what if thy Father answer thee roughly?

11 And Jonathan said unto David, Come, and let us go out into the Field. And they went out both of them into the Field.

12 And Jonathan said unto David, O LORD GOD of Israel, when I have sounded my Father, about To-morrow any time, or the third Day, and behold, if there be Good toward David, and I then send not unto thee, and shew it thee ;

13 The LORD do so and much more to Jonathan : but if it please my Father to do thee Evil, then I will shew it thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace : and the LORD be with thee, as he hath been with my Father.

14 And thou shalt not only, while yet I live, shew me the Kindness of the LORD, that I die not :

15 But also thou shalt not cut off thy Kindness from my House for ever : no not when the LORD hath cut off the ENEMIES of David, every one from the Face of the Earth.

16 So Jonathan made a Covenant with the House of David, saying, Let the LORD even require it at the Hand of David's Enemies.

17 And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him : for he LOVED him as he LOVED his own SOUL.

18 Then Jonathan said to David, To-morrow is the New

New Moon : and thou shalt be missed, because thy Seat will be empty.

19 And when thou hast stayed three Days, then thou shalt go down quickly, and come to the Place where thou didst hide thyself, when the Business was in hand, and shalt remain by the Stone Ezel.

20 And I will shoot three Arrows on the Side thereof, as though I shot at a Mark.

21 And behold, I will send a Lad, saying, Go, find out the Arrows. If I expressly say unto the Lad, Behold, the Arrows are on this side of thee, take them; then come thou : for there is Peace to thee, and no Hurt.

22 But if I say thus unto the young Man, Behold, the Arrows are beyond thee : go thy way, for the LORD hath sent thee away.

24 So David hid himself in the Field : and when the New Moon was come, the King sat him down to eat Meat:

27 And it came to pass on the second Day of the Month, that David's Place was empty : and Saul said unto Jonathan, Wherefore cometh not the Son of Jesse to Meat, neither Yesterday nor To-day?

28 And Jonathan answered Saul, David earnestly asked leave of me, to go to Beth-lehem :

29 Therefore he cometh not unto the King's Table.

30 Then Saul's Anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou Son of the perverse rebellious Woman, do not I know that thou hast chosen the Son of Jesse to thine own Confusion, and unto the Confusion of thy Mother's Nakedness?

31 For as long as the Son of Jesse LIVETH upon the Ground, thou shalt not be ESTABLISHED, nor thy KINGDOM : wherefore now send and fetch him unto me, for he shall surely die.

32 And Jonathan said, Wherefore shall he be slain? what hath he done?

33 And Saul cast a Javelin at him to smite him : whereby Jonathan knew that it was determined of his Father to slay David.

34 So Jonathan arose from the Table in fierce Anger, and did eat no Meat the second Day of the Month. for he was grieved for David, because his Father had done him Shame.

35 And it came to pass in the Morning, that Jonathan went

I. S A M U E L. 385

went out into the Field at the Time appointed with David, and a little Lad with him.

36 And he said unto his Lad, Run, find out now the Arrows which I shoot. And as the Lad ran, he shot an Arrow beyond him.

37 And when the Lad was come to the Place of the Arrow, Jonathan cried after the Lad, and said, Is not the Arrow beyond thee?

38 And Jonathan cried after the Lad, Make speed, haste, stay not.

39 But the Lad knew not any thing: only Jonathan and David knew the Matter.

40 And Jonathan gave his Artillery unto his Lad, and said unto him, Go, carry them to the City.

41 And as soon as the Lad was gone, David arose out of a Place toward the South, and fell on his Face to the Ground, and bowed himself three times: and they KISSED one another, and WEPT one with another, until David EXCEEDED.

42 And Jonathan said to David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn both of us in the Name of the LORD, saying, The LORD be between me and thee, and between my Seed and thy Seed for ever. And he arose and departed: and Jonathan went into the City.

C H A P. XXI.

1 *David at Nob obtaineth of Ahimelech hallowed Bread: 8 He taketh Goliath's Sword: 10 And at Gath feigneth himself mad.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN came David to Nob to Ahimelech the Priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, Why art thou alone, and no Man with thee?

2 And David said, The King hath commanded me a Business, and hath said unto me, Let no Man know any thing of the Business whereabout I send thee.

3 Now therefore what is under thine Hand? give me five Loaves of Bread in mine Hand, or what there is present.

4 And the Priest answered David, and said, There is no common Bread under mine Hand, but there is HALLOWED Bread; if the young Men have kept themselves at least from Women.

D d d

5 And

5 And David answered the Priest, and said unto him, Of a truth, Women have been kept from us about these three Days, since I came out, and the Vessels of the young Men are holy, and the Bread is in a manner common, yea, though it were sanctified this Day in the Vessel.

6 So the Priest gave him hallowed Bread; for there was no Bread there, but the Shew-bread that was taken from before the LORD, to put hot Bread in the Day when it was taken away.

7 Now a certain Man of the Servants of Saul was there that Day, detained before the LORD; and his Name was Doeg an Edomite, the chiefest of the Herdmen that belonged to Saul.

8 And David said unto Ahimelech, And is there not here under thine Hand Spear or Sword? for I have neither brought my Sword nor my Weapons with me, because the King's Business required Haste.

9 And the Priest said, The Sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom thou slewest in the Valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapt in a Cloth behind the Ephod: if thou wilt take that, take it: for there is no other save that here. And David said, There is none like that, give it me.

10 And David arose, and fled that Day for fear of Saul, and went to Achish the King of Gath.

11 And the Servants of Achish said unto him, Is not this David the King of the Land? did they not sing one to another of him in Dances, saying, Saul hath slain his Thousands, and David his Ten thousands.

12 And David laid up these Words in his Heart, and was sore afraid of Achish the King of Gath.

13 ^b And he CHANGED his Behaviour before them, and feigned himself mad in their Hands, and scrabbled on the Doors of the Gate, and let his Spittle fall down upon his Beard.

14 Then said Achish unto his Servants, Lo, you see the Man is mad: wherefore then have ye brought him to me?

15 Have I need of Madmen, that ye have brought

^b P S A L. XXXIV.

A Psalm of David, when he changed his Behaviour before Ahimelech: who drove him away, and he departed.

I Will bless the LORD at all Times: his Praise shall continually be in my Mouth.

2 My Soul shall make her Boast in the LORD: the Humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

3 O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his Name together.

4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my Fears.

5 They looked unto him, and this

I. S A M U E L. 387

this Fellow to play the Mad-man in my Presence? shall
 this Fellow come into my House?

were lightned: and their Faces were not ashamed.

6 This poor Man cried, and the Lord heard him; and saved him out of all his Troubles.

7 The Angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

8 O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the Man that trusteth in him.

9 O fear the Lord, ye his Saints: for there is no Want to them that fear him.

10 The young Lions do lack, and suffer Hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good Thing.

11 Come ye Children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the Fear of the Lord.

12 What Man is he that desireth Life, and loveth many Days, that he may see Good?

13 Keep thy Tongue from Evil, and thy Lips from speaking Guile.

14 Depart from Evil, and do Good: seek Peace and pursue it.

15 The Eyes of the Lord are upon the Righteous, and his Ears are open unto their Cry.

16 The Face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the Remembrance of them from the Earth.

17 The Righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their Troubles.

18 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken Heart: and saveth such as be of a contrite Spirit.

19 Many are the Afflictions of the Righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

20 He keepeth all his Bones: not one of them is broken.

21 Evil shall slay the Wicked: and they that hate the Righteous shall be desolate.

22 The Lord redeemeth the Soul of his Servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

P S A L. LVI.

To the chief Musician upon Jonath-elem-rechokim, Michtam of David; when the Philistines took him in Gath*.

BE merciful unto me, O God, for Man would swallow me up: he fighting daily oppresseth me.

2 Mine Enemies would daily swallow me up: for they be many that fight against me, O thou most High.

3 What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.

4 In God I will praise his Word, in God I have put my Trust, I will not fear what Flesh can do unto me.

5 Every Day they wrest my Words: all their Thoughts are against me for Evil.

6 They gather themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my Steps, when they wait for my Soul.

7 Shall they escape by Iniquity? in thine Anger cast down the People, O God.

8 Thou tellest my Wandrings, put thou my Tears into thy Bottle: are they not in thy Book?

9 When I cry unto thee, then shall mine Enemies turn back: this I know, for God is for me.

10 In God will I praise his Word, in the Lord will I praise his Word.

* Gath was the City of Goliath, to which David now fled from the Persecution of Saul.

11 In God have I put my Trust : I will not be afraid what Man can do unto me.

12 Thy Vows are upon me, O God : I will render Praises unto thee.

13 For thou hast delivered my Soul from Death : wilt not thou deliver my Feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the Light of the Living.

CH A P. XXII.

1 Companies resort to David at Adullam. 9 Doeg accuseth Ahimelech. 11 Saul commandeth to kill the Priests.

Ver. 1 **D**AVID therefore departed thence, and escaped to the Cave Adullam : and when his Brethren, and all his Father's House heard it, they went down thither to him.

2 And every One that was in Distress, and every One that was in Debt, and every One that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him, and he became a Captain over them : and there were with him about four hundred Men.

3 And David went thence to Mizpeh of Moab : and he said unto the King of Moab, Let my Father and my Mother, I pray thee, come forth, and be with you till I know what God will do for me.

4 And he brought them before the King of Moab : and they dwelt with him all the while that David was in the Hold.

5 And the Prophet Gad said unto David, Abide not in the Hold, depart, and get thee into the Land of Judah. Then David departed, and came into the Forest of Hareth.

6 When Saul heard that David was discovered, and the Men that were with him (now Saul abode in Gibeah under a Tree in Ramah, having his Spear in his Hand, and all his Servants were standing about him.)

PSALM CXLII.

Maschil of David ; a Prayer when he was in the Cave.

I Cried unto the Lord with my Voice : with my Voice unto the Lord did I make my Supplication.

2 I poured out my Complaint before him ; I shewed before him my Trouble.

3 When my Spirit was overwhelmed within me, then thou knewest my Path : in the Way wherein I walked, have they privily laid a Snare for me.

4 I looked on my Right Hand, and beheld, but there was no Man that would know me ; Refuge failed me ; no Man cared for my Soul.

5 I cried unto thee, O Lord, I said, Thou art my Refuge, and my Portion in the Land of the Living.

6 Attend unto my Cry, for I am brought very low : deliver me from my Persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

7 Bring my Soul out of Prison, that I may praise thy Name : the Righteous shall compass me about ; for thou shalt deal bountifully with me.

7 Then

7 Then Saul said unto his Servants that stood about him, Hear now, ye Benjamites, Will the Son of Jesse give every one of you Fields, and Vineyards, and make you all Captains of Thousands, and Captains of Hundreds.

8 That all of you have conspired against me, and there is none that sheweth me that my Son hath made a League with the Son of Jesse, and there is none of you that is sorry for me, or sheweth unto me that my Son hath stirred up my Servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this Day?

9 ^d Then answered DOEG the EDMITE (which was set over the Servants of Saul) and said, I saw the Son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the Son of Ahitub.

10 And he enquired of the LORD for him: and gave him Victuals, and gave him the Sword of Goliath the Philistine.

11 Then the King sent to call Ahimelech the Priest the Son of Ahitub, and all his Father's House, the Priests that were in Nob: and they came all of them to the King.

12 And Saul said, Hear now, thou Son of Ahitub: And he answered, Here I am, my LORD.

13 And Saul said unto him, Why have ye conspired against me, thou and the Son of Jesse, in that thou hast given him Bread, and a Sword, and hast enquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait as at this Day?

14 Then Ahimelech answered the King, and said, And who is so faithful among all thy Servants, as David, which is the King's Son-in-law, and goeth at thy bidding, and is honourable in thine House?

15 Did I then begin to enquire of God for him? be it far

^d P S A L. LII.

To the chief Musician, Maschil, a Psalm of David, when Doeg the Edomite told Saul, and said unto him, David is come to the House of Ahimelech.

W H Y boastest thou thyself in Mischief, O mighty Man? the Goodness of God endureth continually.

1 Thy Tongue deviseth Mischiefs: like a sharp Razor, working deceitfully.

2 Thou lovest Evil more than Good: and Lying rather than to speak Righteousness.

3 Thou lovest all devouring Words, O thou deceitful Tongue.

4 God shall likewise destroy thee for ever, he shall take thee away, and pluck thee out of thy Dwelling-place, and root thee out of the Land of the Living.

5 The Righteous also shall see, and fear, and shall laugh at him.

6 Lo, this is the Man that made not God his Strength: but trusted in the abundance of his Riches, and strengthened himself in his Wickedness.

7 But I am like a green Olive-tree in the House of God: I trust in the Mercy of God for ever and ever.

8 I will praise thee for ever, because thou hast done it: and I will wait on thy Name, for it is good before thy Saints.

396 I. S A M U E L.

far from me : let not the King impute any thing unto his Servant, nor to all the House of my Father : for thy Servant knew nothing of all this, less or more.

16 And the King said, Thou shalt surely die, Ahimelech, thou and all thy Father's House.

17 And the King said unto the Foot-men that stood about him, Turn and slay the Priests of the LORD ; because their Hand also is with David, and because they knew when he fled, and did not shew it to me. But the Servants of the King would not put forth their Hand to fall upon the Priests of the LORD.

18 And the King said to Doeg, Turn thou and fall upon the Priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the Priests, and slew on that Day fourscore and five Persons that did wear a linen Ephod.

19 And Nob the City of the Priests, smote he with the Edge of the Sword, both Men and Women, Children and Sucklings, and Oxen, and Asses, and Sheep, with the Edge of the Sword.

20 And one of the Sons of Ahimelech the Son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David.

21 And Abiathar shewed David, that Saul had slain the LORD's Priests.

22 And David said unto Abiathar, I knew it that Day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul : I have occasioned the Death of all the Persons of thy Father's House.

23 Abide thou with me, fear not : for he that seeketh my Life, seeketh thy Life : but with me thou shalt be in Safeguard.

C H A P. XXIII.

1 *David enquiring of the LORD, rescueth Keilah : 7 God shewing him Saul's coming, and the Treachery of the Keilites, he escapeth from Keilah.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN they told David, saying, Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the Threshing-floors.

2 Therefore David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the LORD said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah.

3 And

3 And David's Men said unto him, Behold, we be afraid here in Judah : how much more then if we come to Keilah against the Armies of the Philistines?

4 Then David enquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah ; for I will deliver the Philistines into thine Hand.

5 So David and his Men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their Cattle, and smote them with a great Slaughter : So David saved the Inhabitants of Keilah.

6 And it came to pass when Abiathar the Son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, that he came down with an Ephod in his Hand.

7 And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah : and Saul said, God hath delivered him into mine Hand ; for he is shut in, by entering into a Town that hath Gates and Bars.

8 And Saul called all the People together to War, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his Men.

9 And David knew that Saul secretly practised Mischief against him ; and he said to Abiathar the Priest, Bring hither the Ephod.

10 Then said David, O LORD GOD of Israel, thy Servant hath certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the City for my Sake.

11 Will the Men of Keilah deliver me up into his Hand ? will Saul come down as thy Servant hath heard ? O LORD GOD of Israel, I beseech thee, tell thy Servant. And the LORD said, He will come down. *

12 Then said David, Will the Men of Keilah deliver me and my Men into the Hand of Saul ? And the LORD said, They will deliver thee up.

13 Then David and his Men which were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go : and it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah, and he forbore to go forth.

14 And David abode in the Wilderness in strong Holds, and remained in a Mountain in the Wilderness of Ziph : and Saul sought him every Day, but God delivered him not into his Hand.

15 And David saw that Saul was come out to seek his Life : and David was in the Wilderness of Ziph in a Wood.

16 And

16 And Jonathan Saul's Son arose, and went to David into the Wood, and strengthened his Hand in God.

17 And he said unto him, Fear not : for the Hand of Saul my Father shall not find thee, and thou shalt be King over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee ; and that also Saul my Father knoweth.

18 And they two made a Covenant before the LORD : and David abode in the Wood, and Jonathan went to his House.

19 * Then came up the Ziphites to Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself with us in strong Holds in the Wood, in the Hill of Hachilah, which is on the South of Jeshimon ?

20 Now therefore, O King, come down, according to all the Desire of thy Soul to come down, and our Part shall be to deliver him into the King's Hand.

21 And Saul said, Blessed be ye of the LORD ; for ye have Compassion on me.

22 Go, I pray you, prepare yet, and know and see his Place where his Haunt is, and who hath seen him there : for it is told me that he dealeth very subtilly.

23 See therefore and take Knowledge of all the lurking Places where he hideth himself, and come ye again to me with the Certainty, and I will go with you : and it shall come to pass, if he be in the Land, that I will search him out throughout all the Thousands of Judah.

24 And they arose, and went to Ziph before Saul : but David and his Men were in the Wilderness of Maon, in the Plain on the South of Jeshimon.

25 Saul also and his Men went to seek him ; and they told David : wherefore he came down into a Rock, and abode in the Wilderness of Maon : and when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the Wilderness of Maon.

26 And Saul went on this side of the Mountain, and David and his Men on that side of the Mountain : and David

* P S A L. LIV.

To the chief Musician on Neginoth, Maschil, a Psalm of David, when the Ziphims came and said to Saul, doth not David hide himself with us ?

S Ave me, O God, by thy NAME, and judge me by thy STRENGTH.

2 Hear my Prayer, O God ; Give Ear to the Words of my Mouth.

3 For Strangers are risen up against me, and Oppressors seek after my Soul ; they have not set God before them.

4 Behold, God is mine HELPER : the LORD is with them that uphold my Soul.

5 He shall reward Evil unto mine Enemies ; cut them off in thy Truth.

6 I will freely sacrifice unto thee ; I will praise thy Name, O LORD, for it is good.

7 For he hath DELIVER'D me out of all TROUBLE : and mine Eye hath seen his Desire upon mine Enemies.

vid made hafte to get away for fear of Saul; for Saul and his Men compaffed David and his Men round about to take them.

27 But there came a Meflenger unto Saul, faying, Hafte thee, and come; for the Philiftines have invaded the Land.

28 Wherefore Saul returned from purfuing after David, and went againft the Philiftines: therefore they called that Place Selah-hammah-lekoth.

29 And David went up from thence, and dwelt in ftrong Holds at En-gedi.

C H A P. XXIV.

1 *David in a Cave at En-gedi having cut off Saul's Skirt, fpar-eth his Life: 8 He fheweth thereby his Innocency.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pafs when Saul was returned from following the Philiftines, that it was told him, faying, Behold, David is in the Wildernefs of Engedi.

2 Then Saul took three thoufand chofen Men out of all Ifrael, and went to feek David and his Men upon the Rocks of the Wild Goats.

3 And he came to the Sheep-Cotes, by the Way, where was a Cave, and Saul went in to cover his Feet: and David and his Men remained in the Sides of the Cave.

4 And the Men of David faid unto him, Behold the Day of which the Lord faid unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine Enemy into thine Hand, that thou mayeft do to him as it fhall feem good unto thee. Then David arofe and cut off the Skirt of Saul's Robe privily.

5 And it came to pafs afterward, that David's heart fmote him, becaufe he had cut off Saul's Skirt.

6 And he faid unto his Men, The LORD forbid that I fhould do this Thing unto my Mafter the LORD's Anointed, to ftretch forth mine Hand againft him, feeing he is the Anointed of the LORD.

7 So David ftayed his Servants with thefe Words, and fuffered them not to rife againft Saul: but Saul rofe up out of the Cave, and went on his way.

8 David alfo arofe afterward, and went out of the Cave, and cried after Saul, faying, My Lord the King. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his Face to the Earth, and bowed himfelf.

E e e

9 And

9 And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou Mens Words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy Hurt?

10 Behold, this Day thine Eyes have seen, how that the LORD had delivered thee To-day into mine Hand in the Cave: and some bade me kill thee, but mine Eye spared thee, and I said, I will not put forth mine Hand against my LORD; for he is the LORD's Anointed.

11 Moreover, my Father, see, yea, see the Skirt of thy Robe in my Hand: for in that I cut off the Skirt of thy Robe, and killed thee not; know thou and see that there is neither Evil nor Transgression in mine Hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my Soul to take it.

12 The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine Hand shall not be upon thee.

13 As saith the Proverb of the Antients, Wickedness proceedeth from the Wicked: but mine Hand shall not be upon thee.

14 After whom is the King of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead Dog, after a Flea.

15 The LORD therefore be Judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my Cause, and deliver me out of thine Hand.

16 And it came to pass when David had made an end of speaking these Words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy Voice, my Son David? And Saul lift up his Voice, and wept.

17 And he said to David, Thou art more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me Good, whereas I have rewarded thee Evil.

18 And thou hast shewed this Day, how that thou hast dealt well with me: forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me into thine Hand, thou killedst me not.

19 For if a Man find his Enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee Good, for that thou hast done unto me this Day.

20 And now behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be King, and that the Kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine Hand.

21 Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou wilt not cut off my Seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my Name out of my Father's House.

22 And David sware unto Saul: and Saul went home; but David and his Men gat them up unto the Hold.

C H A P. XXV.

1 Samuel dieth. 10 David provoked by Nabal's Churlishness, mindeth to destroy him. 14 Abigail by her Wisdom pacifieth David. 36 Nabal bearing thereof, dieth. 39 David marieth her.

C H A P. XXVI.

1 Saul cometh to Hachilah against David. 4 David in the Trench stayeth Abishai from killing Saul, but taketh his Spear and Cruise. 13 Abner reproved,

Ver. 1 **A**ND the Ziphites came unto Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself in the Hill of Hachilah which is before Jeshimon?

2 Then Saul arose, and went down to the Wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen Men of Israel with him, to seek David in the Wilderness of Ziph.

3 And Saul pitched in the Hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon by the way: but David abode in the Wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the Wilderness.

4 David therefore sent out Spies, and understood that Saul was come in very deed.

5 And David arose, and came to the Place where Saul had pitched: and David beheld the Place where Saul lay, and Abner the Son of Ner, the Captain of his Host: and Saul lay in the Trench, and the People pitched round about him.

6 Then answered David and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the Son of Zeruiah Brother to Joab, saying, Who will go down with me to Saul to the Camp? And Abishai said, I will go down with thee.

7 So David and Abishai came to the People by Night, and behold, Saul lay sleeping within the Trench, and his Spear stuck in the Ground at his Bolster: but Abner and the People lay round about him.

8 Then said Abishai to David, God hath delivered thine Enemy into thine Hand this Day: now therefore let me smite him, I pray thee, with the Spear, even to the Earth at once, and I will not smite him the second time.

E c c 2 . 9 And

9 And David said to Abishai, Destroy him not : for who can stretch forth his Hand against the LORD's Anointed, and be guiltless ?

10 David said furthermore, As the LORD liveth, the LORD shall smite him, or his Day shall come to die, or he shall descend into Battle and perish.

11 The LORD forbid that I should stretch forth mine Hand against the LORD's Anointed : but I pray thee, take thou now the Spear that is at his Bolster, and the Cruse of Water, and let us go.

12 So David took the Spear and the Cruse of Water from Saul's Bolster, and they gat them away, and no Man saw it, nor knew it, neither awaked : for they were all asleep, because a deep Sleep from the LORD was fallen upon them.

13 Then David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of an Hill afar off, (a great Space being between them.)

14 And David cried to the People, and to Abner the Son of Ner, saying, Answerest thou not, Abner ? Then Abner answered and said, Who art thou that criest to the King ?

15 And David said to Abner, Art not thou a valiant Man ? and who is like to thee in Israel ? wherefore then hast thou not kept thy Lord the King ? for there came one of the People in to destroy the King thy LORD.

16 This Thing is not good that thou hast done : as the LORD liveth, ye are worthy to die, because ye have not kept your Master the LORD's Anointed : and now see where the King's Spear is, and the Cruse of Water that was at his Bolster.

17 And Saul knew David's Voice, and said, Is this thy Voice, my Son David ? And David said, It is my Voice, my Lord, O King.

18 And he said, Wherefore doth my Lord thus pursue after his Servant ? for what have I done ? or what Evil is in mine Hand ?

19 Now therefore, I pray thee, let my Lord the King hear the Words of his Servant : If the LORD have stirred thee up against me, let him accept an Offering : but if they be the Children of Men, cursed be they before the LORD ; for they have driven me out this Day from abiding in the Inheritance of the LORD, saying, Go serve other Gods.

20 Now therefore let not my Blood fall to the Earth before the Face of the LORD : for the King of Israel is come out

I S A M U E L. 397

out to seek a Flea, as when one doth hunt a Partridge in the Mountains.

21 Then said Saul, I have sinned : return, my Son David, for I will no more do thee harm, because my Soul was precious in thine Eyes this Day : behold, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly.

22 And David answered and said, Behold, the King's Spear, and let one of the young Men come over and fetch it.

23 The LORD render to every Man his Righteousness, and his Faithfulness : for the LORD delivered thee into my Hand To-day, but I would not stretch forth mine Hand against the LORD's Anointed.

24 And behold, as thy Life was much set by this Day in mine Eyes ; so let my Life be much set by in the Eyes of the LORD, and let him deliver me out of all Tribulation.

25 Then Saul said to David, Blessed be thou, my Son David : thou shalt both do great Things, and also shalt still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his Place.

C H A P. XXVII.

1 *Saul hearing David to be in Gath, seeketh no more for him.*
5 *David beggeth Ziklag of Achish.*

C H A P. XXVIII.

3 *Saul having destroyed the Witches, 7 afterwards seeketh for one ; who being encouraged by him, raiseth up Samuel.*
15 *Saul's Ruine forebewn.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass in those Days, that the Philistines gathered their Armies together for Warfare, to fight with Israel : and Achish said unto David, Know thou assuredly, that thou shalt go out with me to Battle, thou and thy Men.

2 And David said to Achish, Surely thou shalt know what thy Servant can do. And Achish said to David, Therefore will I make thee Keeper of mine Head for ever.

3 Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own City : and Saul had put away those that had familiar Spirits, and the Wizards out of the Land.

4 And

4 And the Philistines gathered themselves together, and came and pitched in Shunem : and Saul gathered all Israel together, and they pitched in Gilboa.

5 And when Saul saw the Host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his Heart greatly trembled.

6 And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by Dreams, nor by Urim, nor by Prophets.

7 Then said Saul unto his Servants, Seek me a Woman that hath a familiar Spirit, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his Servants said to him, Behold, there is a Woman that hath a familiar Spirit at En-dor.

8 And Saul disguised himself, and put on other Raiment, and he went, and two Men with him, and they came to the Woman by Night ; and he said, I pray thee divine unto me by the familiar Spirit, and bring me him up whom I shall name unto thee.

9 And the Woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar Spirits, and the Wizards out of the Land : wherefore then layest thou a Snare for my Life, to cause me to die ?

10 And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no Punishment happen to thee for this Thing.

11 Then said the Woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee ? and he said, Bring me up SAMUEL.

12 And when the Woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud Voice : and the Woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me ? for thou art Saul.

13 And the King said unto her, Be not afraid : for what sawest thou ? And the Woman said unto Saul, I saw Gods ascending out of the Earth.

14 And he said unto her, What FORM is he of ? And she said, An OLD MAN COMETH UP ; and he is covered with a Mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his Face to the Ground, and bowed himself.

15 And SAMUEL said to SAUL, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up ? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed ; for the Philistines make War against me, and God is departed from me, and ANSWERETH me NO MORE, neither by Prophets, nor by Dreams : therefore I have called
led

I. S A M U E L. 399

led thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

16 Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is DEPARTED from thee, and is become thine Enemy?

17 And the LORD hath done to him as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the Kingdom out of thine Hand, and given it to thy NEIGHBOUR, even to DAVID:

18 Because thou OBEYEDST NOT the Voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce Wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this Thing unto thee this Day.

19 Moreover, the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee, into the Hand of the Philistines: and To-morrow shalt thou and thy Sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the Host of Israel into the Hand of the Philistines.

20 Then Saul fell straightway all along on the Earth, and was sore afraid, because of the Words of Samuel, and there was no STRENGTH in him: for he had eaten no Bread all the Day, nor all the Night.

21 And the Woman came unto Saul, and saw that he was sore troubled, and said unto him, Behold, thine Handmaid hath obeyed thy Voice, and I have put my Life in my Hand, and have hearkned unto thy Words which thou spakest unto me.

22 Now therefore, I pray thee, hearken thou also unto the Voice of thine Handmaid, and let me set a Morsel of Bread before thee; and eat, that thou mayest have Strength, when thou goest on thy way.

23 But he refused, and said, I will not eat: but his Servants together with the Woman, compelled him, and he hearkned unto their Voice: so he arose from the Earth, and sat upon the Bed.

24 And the Woman had a fat Calf in the House, and she hasted, and killed it, and took Flour, and kneaded it, and did bake unleavened Bread thereof.

25 And she brought it before Saul, and before his Servants, and they did eat: then they rose up, and went away that Night.

C H A P. XXIX.

1 David marching with the Philistines, 3 is disallowed by their Princes: 6 Achish dismisseth him.

C H A P.

C H A P. XXX.

1 The Amalekites spoil Ziklag. 7 David encouraged by God pursueth them, 11 and overtaketh them, and recovereth the Spoil : 26 Sendeth Presents.

C H A P. XXXI.

1 Saul having lost his Army, and his Sons being slain, he and his Armour-bearer kill themselves. 8 The Philistines triumph over the dead Carcasses.

Ver. 1 **N**OW the Philistines fought against Israel : and the Men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in Mount Gilboa.

2 And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul, and upon his Sons ; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchishua, Saul's Sons.

3 And the Battle went fore against Saul, and the Archers hit him, and he was fore wounded of the Archers.

4 Then said Saul unto his Armour-bearer, Draw thy Sword, and thrust me through therewith ; lest these Uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me. But his Armour-bearer would not ; for he was fore afraid : therefore Saul took a Sword and fell upon it.

5 And when his Armour-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his Sword, and died with him.

6 So Saul died, and his three Sons, and his Armour-bearer, and all his Men that same Day together.

7 And when the Men of Israel that were on the other side of the Valley, and they that were on the other side of Jordan, saw that the Men of Israel fled, and that Saul and his Sons were dead, they forsook the Cities and fled ; and the Philistines came and dwelt in them.

8 And it came to pass on the Morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the Slain, that they found Saul and his three Sons fallen in Mount Gilboa.

9 And they cut off his Head, and stripped off his Armour, and sent into the Land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the House of their Idols, and among the People.

10 And

I. S A M U E L. 401

10 And they put his Armour in the House of Ashtaroth :
and they fastned his Body to the Wall of Beth-shan.

11 And when the Inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead heard of
that which the Philistines had done to Saul :

12 All the valiant Men arose, and went all Night, and
took the Body of Saul, and the Bodies of his Sons from the
Wall of Beth-shan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them
there.

13 And they took their Bones and buried them under a
Tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven Days.



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A N



A N

ABSTRACT

Of the SECOND BOOK of

S A M U E L.



C H A P. I.

1 *The Amalekite bringing Tidings of the Overthrow, and accusing himself of Saul's Death, is slain. 17 David lamenteth Saul and Jonathan with a Song.*

Ver. 1



OW it came to pass after the Death of Saul, when David was returned from the Slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had abode two Days in Ziklag:
 2 It came even to pass on the third Day, that behold, a Man came out of the Camp from Saul, with his Cloaths rent, and Earth upon his Head: and so it was, when he came to David, that he fell to the Earth, and did Obedience.

3 And

3 And David said unto him, From whence comest thou? and he said unto him, Out of the Camp of Israel am I escaped.

4 And David said unto him, How went the Matter? I pray thee, tell me. And he answered, That the People are fled from the Battle, and many of the People also are fallen and dead, and Saul and Jonathan his Son are dead also.

5 And David said unto the young Man that told him, How knowest thou that Saul and Jonathan his Son be dead?

6 And the young Man that told him, said, As I hapned by Chance upon Mount Gilboa, behold, Saul leaned upon his Spear: and lo, the Chariots and Horsemen followed hard after him.

7 And when he looked behind him, he saw me, and called unto me: and I answered, Here am I.

8 And he said unto me, Who art thou? And I answered him, I am an Amalekite.

9 He said unto me again, Stand, I pray thee, upon me, and slay me: for Anguish is come upon me, because my Life is yet whole in me.

10 So I stood upon him, and slew him, because I was sure that he could not live after that he was fallen: and I took the Crown that was upon his Head, and the Bracelet that was on his Arm, and have brought them hither unto my Lord.

11 Then David took hold on his Cloaths, and rent them, and likewise all the Men that were with him.

12 And they mourned and wept, and fasted until Even, for Saul and for Jonathan his Son, and for the People of the LORD, and for the House of Israel; because they were fallen by the Sword.

13 And David said unto the young Man that told him, Whence art thou? And he answered, I am the Son of a Stranger, an Amalekite.

14 And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine Hand, to destroy the LORD's Anointed?

15 And David called one of the young Men, and said, Go near, and fall upon him, And he smote him that he died.

16 And David said unto him, Thy Blood be upon thy Head: for thy Mouth hath testified against thee, saying, I have slain the LORD's Anointed.

17 And David lamented with this LAMENTATION over Saul, and over Jonathan his Son.

18 (Also he bade them teach the Children of Judah the Use of the Bow : behold it is written in the Book of Jasher)

19 The BEAUTY of Israel is slain upon thy high Places : how are the Mighty fallen !

20 Tell it not in GATH, publish it not in the Streets of ASKELON : lest the Daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the Daughters of the Uncircumcised triumph.

21 Ye Mountains of Gilboa, let there be no Dew, neither let there be Rain upon you, nor Fields of Offerings : for there the SHIELD of the Mighty is vilely cast away, the Shield of Saul, as though he had not been anointed with Oil.

22 From the Blood of the Slain, from the Fat of the Mighty, the Bow of JONATHAN turned not back, and the Sword of Saul returned not empty.

23 Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their Lives, and in their Death they were not divided : they were swifter than Eagles, they were stronger than Lions.

24 Ye Daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you in Scarlet, with other Delights, who put on Ornaments of Gold upon your Apparel.

25 How are the MIGHTY FALLEN in the midst of the Battle ! O Jonathan, thou wast slain in thine high Places.

26 I am DISTRESSED for thee, my BROTHER Jonathan : very PLEASANT hast thou been unto me : thy LOVE to ME WAS WONDERFUL, passing the LOVE of WOMEN.

27 How are the MIGHTY FALLEN, and the Weapons of War perished !

CH A P. II.

1 David by God's Direction going up to Hebron, is made King of Judah. 8 Abner maketh Ish-boseth King of Israel.

CH A P. III.

1 During the War David still waxeth stronger. 6 Abner displeased with Ish-boseth, 12 revolteth to David. 27 Joab killeth Abner. 28 David curseth Joab, 31 and mourneth for Abner.

CH A P.

C H A P. IV.

☛ *The Israelites being troubled at the Death of Abner, 2 Baanah and Rechab slay Ish-bosheth : 9 David causeth them to be slain, and Ish-bosheth's Head to be buried.*

C H A P. V.

1 *The Tribes come to Hebron to anoint David over Israel.*
6 *Zion taken from the Jebusites.* 17 *The Philistines smitten.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN came all the Tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying, Behold, we are thy Bone, and thy Flesh.

2 Also in Time past, when Saul was King over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel : and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my People Israel, and thou shalt be a Captain over Israel.

3 So all the Elders of Israel came to the King to Hebron, and King David made a League with them in Hebron before the LORD : and they anointed David King over Israel.

4 David was thirty Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty Years.

5 In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven Years and six Months : and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three Years over all Israel and Judah.

6 And the King and his Men went to Jerusalem, unto the Jebusites, the Inhabitants of the Land : which spake unto David, saying, Except thou take away the Blind and the Lame, thou shalt not come in hither : thinking, David cannot come in hither.

7 Nevertheless, David took the strong Hold of ZION : the same is the CITY of DAVID.

9 So David dwelt in the Fort, and called it the City of David ; and David built round about, from Millo and inward.

10 And David went on, and grew great, and the LORD GOD of HOSTS was WITH HIM.

12 And David perceived that the LORD had established him King over Israel, and that he had exalted his Kingdom for his People Israel's Sake.

13 And David took him more Concubines and Wives out of

406 **II S A M U E L.**

of Jerusalem, after he was come from Hebron : and there were yet Sons and Daughters born to David.

17 But when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David King over Israel, all the Philistines came up to seek David.

19 And David enquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines ? wilt thou DELIVER them into mine Hand ? And the LORD said unto David, Go UP : for I will doubtless DELIVER the Philistines into thine Hand.

20 And David came to Baal-perazim, and David smote them there, and said, The LORD hath broken forth upon mine Enemies before me, as the Breach of Waters. Therefore he called the Name of that Place Baal-perazim,

21 And there they left their Images, and David and his Men burnt them.

22 And the Philistines came up yet again, and spread themselves in the Valley of Rephaim.

23 And when David ENQUIRED of the LORD, he said, Thou shalt NOT go up : but fetch a Compass behind them, and come upon them over against the Mulberry-trees.

24 And let it be when thou hearest the Sound of a Going in the Tops of the Mulberry-trees, that then thou shalt bestir thyself : for then shall the LORD go out before thee, to smite the Host of the Philistines.

25 And David did so, as the LORD had commanded him ; and smote the Philistines from Geba, until thou come to Gazer.

C H A P. VI.

1 *David fetcheth the Ark from Kirjath-jearim on a new Cart.*

6 *Uzzah smitten.* 14 *David danceth before the Ark.*

23 *Michal's Barrenness.*

Vers 1 **A** GAIN, David gathered together all the chosen Men of Israel, thirty thousand.

2 And David arose, and went with all the People that were with him, from Baale of Judah, to bring up from thence the Ark of GOD, whose Name is called by the Name of the LORD of Hosts, that dwelleth between the Cherubims.

3 And they set the Ark of GOD upon a new Cart, and brought it out of the House of Abinadab that was in Gibeon :

beth : and Uzzah and Ahio the Sons of Abinadab drave the new Cart.

4 And they brought it out of the House of Abinadab, accompanying the Ark of God ; and Ahio went before the Ark.

5 And David and all the House of Israel played before the LORD on all manner of Instruments made of Fir-wood, even on HARPS, and on PSALTERIES, and on TIMBRELS, and on CORNETS, and on CYMBALS.

6 And when they came to Nachon's Threshing-floor, Uzzah put forth his Hand to the Ark of God, and took hold of it, for the Oxen shook it.

7 And the Anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah, and God smote him there for his Error, and there he died by the Ark of God.

9 And David was afraid of the LORD that Day, and said, How shall the Ark of the LORD come to me ?

10 So David would not remove the Ark of the LORD unto him into the City of David : but David carried it aside into the House of Obed-edom the Gittite.

11 And the ARK of the LORD continued in the House of Obed-edom three Months : and the LORD BLESSED Obed-edom, and all his Household.

12 And it was told King David, saying, The LORD hath BLESSED the House of Obed-edom, and all that pertaineth unto him, because of the ARK of God. So David went and brought up the ARK of God from the House of Obed-edom into the City of David with GLADNESS.

13 And it was so, that when they that bare the ARK of the LORD, had gone six Paces, he sacrificed Oxen and Fatlings.

14 And David danced before the LORD with all his MIGHT, and David was girded with a linen Ephod.

15 So David and all the House of Israel brought up the ARK of the LORD with shouting, and with the Sound of the Trumpet.

16 And as the ARK of the LORD came into the City of David, Michal Saul's Daughter looked through a Window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD ; and she DESPISED him in her Heart.

17 And they brought in the ARK of the LORD, and set it in his Place, in the midst of the Tabernacle that David had

408 II. S A M U E L.

had pitched for it : and David offered Burnt-offerings, and Peace-offerings before the LORD.

18 And as soon as David had made an end of offering Offerings, he blessed the People in the Name of the LORD of Hosts.

19 And he dealt among all the People, even among the whole multitude of Israel, as well to the Women as Men, to every one a Cake of Bread, and a good piece of Flesh, and a Flaggon of Wine : so all the People departed every one to his House.

20 Then David returned to bless his Household : and Michal the Daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, How glorious was the King of Israel To-day, who uncovered himself To-day in the Eyes of the Handmaids of his Servants, as one of the vain Fellows shamelessly uncovereth himself !

21 And David said unto Michal, It was before the LORD which chose me before thy Father, and before all his House, to appoint me Ruler over the People of the LORD, over Israel : therefore will I play before the LORD.

22 And I will yet be more VILE than thus, and will be BASE in MINE OWN SIGHT : and of the Maid-servants which thou hast spoken of, of them shall I be had in Honour.

23 Therefore Michal the Daughter of Saul had no Child until the Day of her Death.

C H A P. VII.

1 GOD forbiddeth David to build him an House : 18 His Prayer and Thanksgiving.

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass, when the King sat in his House, and the LORD had given him REST round about from all his Enemies ;

2 That the King said unto Nathan the Prophet, See now, I dwell in an House of Cedar ; but the Ark of GOD dwelleth within Curtains.

3 And Nathan said to the King, Go, do all that is in thine Heart : for the LORD is with thee.

4 And it came to pass that Night, that the Word of the LORD came unto Nathan, saying,

5 Go and tell my Servant David, Thus saith the LORD, Shalt thou build me an House for me to dwell in ?

6 Whereas

II. S A M U E L. 409

6 Whereas I have not dwelt in any House, since the Time that I brought up the Children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this Day, but have walked in a Tent and in a Tabernacle.

7 In all the Places wherein I have walked with all the Children of Israel, spake I a Word with any of the Tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to feed my People Israel, saying, Why build ye not me an House of Cedar?

8 Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my Servant David, Thus saith the LORD of Hosts, I took thee from the SHEEP-COTE, from following the Sheep, to be RULER over my People over Israel.

9 And I was WITH THEE whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine Enemies out of thy fight, and have made thee a GREAT NAME, like to the Name of the great Men that are in the Earth.

10 (Moreover, I will appoint a Place for my People Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a Place of their own, and move no more : neither shall the Children of Wickedness afflict them any more, as before time,

11 And as since the Time that I commanded Judges to be over my People Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine Enemies.) Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an House.

12 And when thy Days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy Fathers, I will set up thy Seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy Bowels, and I will ESTABLISH his KINGDOM.

13 He shall build an House for my Name, and I will stablish the Throne of his Kingdom for ever.

14 I will be his Father, and he shall be my Son : if he commit Iniquity, I will chasten him with the Rod of Men, and with the Stripes of the Children of Men.

15 But my Mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

16 And thine HOUSE, and thy KINGDOM shall be established for EVER before thee : THY THRONE shall be established for EVER.

17 According to all these Words, and according to all this Vision, so did Nathan speak unto David.

18 Then went King David in and sat before the LORD, and he said, WHO am I, O LORD GOD? and what is my House, that thou hast brought me hitherto?

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19 And

410 II. S A M U E L.

19 And this was yet a small Thing in thy sight, O LORD GOD; but thou hast SPOKEN also of thy Servant's House for a great while to come; and is this the Manner of Man, O LORD GOD?

20 And what can David say more unto thee? for thou, LORD GOD, knowest thy Servant.

21 For thy Word's sake, and according to thine own Heart hast thou done all these great Things, to make thy Servant know them.

22 Wherefore thou art great, O LORD GOD: for there is NONE LIKE thee, neither is there ANY GOD BESIDE thee, according to all that we have heard with our Ears.

23 And what one Nation in the Earth is like thy People, even like Israel, whom GOD went to REDEEM for a People to himself, and to make him a Name, and to do for you great Things, and terrible, for thy Land, before thy People which thou REDEEMEST to thee from Egypt, from the Nations and their Gods?

24 For thou hast confirmed to thyself thy People Israel to be a People unto thee for ever: and thou, LORD, art become their GOD.

25 And now, O LORD GOD, the Word that thou hast spoken concerning thy Servant, and concerning his House, establish it for ever, and do as thou hast said.

26 And let thy NAME be MAGNIFIED for EVER, saying, The LORD of HOSTS is the GOD over Israel: and let the House of thy Servant David be established before thee.

27 For thou, O LORD of HOSTS, GOD of Israel, hast revealed to thy Servant, saying, I will build thee an House: therefore hath thy Servant found in his Heart to PRAY this Prayer unto thee.

28 And now, O LORD GOD, thou art that GOD, and thy WORDS be TRUE, and thou hast promised this Goodness unto thy Servant.

29 Therefore now let it please thee to BLESS the House of thy SERVANT, that it may continue for ever before thee: for thou, O LORD GOD, hast spoken it, and with thy Blessing let the House of thy Servant be blessed for ever.

C H A P. VIII.

1 David subdueth the Philistines, and the Moabites: 3 He smiteth Hadadezer and the Syrians: 16 His Officers.

C H A P.

C H A P. IX.

1 David sendeth for Mephibosheth, 7 and for Jonathan's sake, restoreth him.

C H A P. X.

1 David's Messengers sent to comfort Hanun, are villainously intreated. 6 The Ammonites are overcome.

C H A P. XI.

1 While Joab besieged Rabbah, 2 David committeth Adultery with Bath-sheba. 6 Uriah is slain. 26 David taketh Bath-sheba to Wife.

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass, that after the Year was expired, at the Time when Kings go forth to Battle, that David sent Joab and his Servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the Children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah: but David tarried still at Jerusalem.

2 And it came to pass in an Evening-tide, that David arose from off his Bed, and walked upon the Roof of the King's House: and from the Roof he saw a Woman washing herself, and the Woman was very beautiful to look upon.

3 And David sent and enquired after the Woman: and one said, Is not this Bath-sheba the Daughter of Eliam, the Wife of Uriah the Hittite.

4 And David sent Messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her (for she was purified from her Uncleaness) and she returned unto her House.

5 And the Woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with Child.

6 And David sent to Joab, saying, Send me Uriah the Hittite. And Joab sent Uriah to David.

7 And when Uriah was come unto him, David demanded of him how Joab did, and how the People did, and how the War prospered.

8 And David said to Uriah, Go down to thy House, and wash thy Feet. And Uriah departed out of the King's House, and there followed him a Mess of Meat from the King.

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9 But

412 **II. S A M U E L.**

9 But Uriah slept at the Door of the King's House, with all the Servants of his LORD, and went not down to his House.

10 And when they had told David, saying, Uriah went not down unto his House, David said unto Uriah, Camest thou not from thy Journey? why then didst thou not go down unto thine House?

11 And Uriah said unto David, The Ark and Israel, and Judah abide in Tents, and my Lord Joab, and the Servants of my Lord are encamped in the open Fields; shall I then go into mine House, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my Wife? as thou livest, and as thy Soul liveth, I will not do this Thing.

12 And David said to Uriah, Tarry here To-day also, and To-morrow I will let thee depart. So Uriah abode in Jerusalem, that Day and the Morrow.

13 And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him, and he made him drunk: and at Even he went out to lie on his Bed with the Servants of his Lord, but went not down to his House.

14 And it came to pass in the Morning, that David wrote a Letter to Joab, and sent it by the Hand of Uriah.

15 And he wrote in the Letter, saying, Set ye Uriah in the Forefront of the hottest Battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten and die.

16 And it came to pass when Joab observed the City, that he assigned Uriah unto a Place where he knew that valiant Men were.

17 And the Men of the City went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell some of the People of the Servants of David, and Uriah the Hittite died also.

18 Then Joab sent and told David all the Things concerning the War:

19 And charged the Messenger, saying, When thou hast made an end of telling the Matters of the War unto the King,

20 And if so be that the King's Wrath arise, and say unto thee, Wherefore approached ye so nigh unto the City when ye did fight? knew ye not that they would shoot from the Wall?

21 Who smote Abimelech the Son of Jerubbeseth? did not a Woman cast a piece of a Millstone upon him from the Wall, that he died in Thebez? why went ye nigh the Wall?

II. S A M U E L. 413

Wall? then say thou, Thy Servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.

22 So the Messenger went, and came and shewed David all that Joab had sent him for.

23 And the Messenger said unto David, Surely the Men prevailed against us, and came out unto us into the Field, and we were upon them even unto the entering of the Gate.

24 And the Shooters shot from off the Wall upon thy Servants, and some of the King's Servants be dead, and thy Servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.

25 And David said unto the Messenger, Thus shalt thou say unto Joab, Let not this Thing displease thee: for the Sword devoureth one as well as another: make thy Battle more strong against the City, and overthrow it; and encourage thou him.

26 And when the Wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her Husband was dead, she mourned for her Husband.

27 And when the Mourning was past, David sent, and set her to his House, and she became his Wife, and bare him a Son: but the Thing that David had done displeased the LORD,

C H A P. XII.

1 *Nathan's Parable.* 7 *David confesseth his Sin, and is pardoned.* 24 *Solomon is born.* 26 *Rabbah is taken.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND ^f the LORD sent Nathan unto David: and he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two Men in one City; the one rich, and the other poor.

2 The rich Man had exceeding many Flocks and Herds.

3 But the poor Man had nothing save one little Ewe-lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his Children; it did

P S A L. LI.

To the chief Musician, a Psalm of David, when Nathan the Prophet came unto him, after he had gone into Bath-sheba.

HAVE Mercy upon me, O God, according to thy LOVING-KINDNESS: according unto the MULTITUDE of thy TENDER MERCIES blot out my Transgressions.

2 WASH me thoroughly from mine INIQUITY, and cleanse me from my SIN.

3 For I acknowledge my TRANSGRESSIONS, and my SIN is ever before me.

4 Against THEE, THEE ONLY have I sinned, and done this Evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

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eat of his own Meat, and drank of his own Cup, and lay in his Bosom, and was unto him as a Daughter.

4 And there came a Traveller unto the rich Man, and he spared to take of his own Flock, and of his own Herd, to dress for the way-faring Man that was come unto him, but took the poor Man's Lamb, and dressed it for the Man that was come to him.

5 And David's Anger was greatly kindled against the Man, and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the Man that hath done this Thing shall surely die.

6 And he shall restore the Lamb four-fold, because he did this Thing, and because he had no Pity.

7 And Nathan said to David, Thou art the Man. Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, I have anointed thee King over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the Hand of Saul :

8 And I gave thee thy Master's House, and thy Master's Wives into thy Bosom, and gave thee the House of Israel and of Judah ; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such Things.

9 Wherefore hast thou despised the Commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight ? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the Sword, and hast taken his Wife to be thy Wife, and hast slain him with the Sword of the Children of Ammon.

10 Now therefore the Sword shall never depart from thine House ;

5 Behold, I was SHAPEN in INIQUITY : and in SIN did my Mother CONCEIVE me.

6 Behold, thou desirest Truth in the INWARD PARTS : and in the HIDDEN PART thou shalt make me to know WISDOM.

7 Purge me with Hyssop, and I shall be clean : wash me, and I shall be whiter than Snow.

8 Make me to hear Joy and Gladness : that the Bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

9 HIDE thy FACE from my SINS ; and blot out all mine Iniquities.

10 CREATE in me a CLEAN HEART, O GOD ; and RENEW a right SPIRIT within me ;

11 CAST me not away from thy PRESENCE ; and take not thy HOLY SPIRIT from me.

12 Restore unto me the Joy of thy SALVATION : and uphold me with thy free Spirit

13 Then will I teach Transgressors thy Ways, and Sinners shall be converted unto thee.

14 DELIVER me from BLOOD-GUILTINESS, O GOD, thou GOD of my Salvation : and my Tongue shall sing aloud of thy Righteousness.

15 O LORD, open thou my Lips, and my Mouth shall shew forth thy Praise

16 For thou desirest not Sacrifice, else would I give it : thou delightest not in Burnt-offering.

17 THE SACRIFICES of GOD are a BROKEN SPIRIT : a BROKEN and a CONTRITE HEART, O GOD, thou wilt not despise.

18 Do Good in thy good Pleasure unto Zion : build thou the Walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the Sacrifices of Righteousness, with Burnt-offering, and whole Burnt-offering : then shall they offer Bullocks upon thine Altar.

II. S A M U E L. 415

House; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the Wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy Wife.

11 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up Evil against thee out of thine own House, and I will take thy Wives before thine Eyes, and give them unto thy Neighbour, and he shall lie with thy Wives in the sight of this Sun.

12 For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this Thing before all Israel, and before the Sun.

13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy Sin; thou shalt not die.

14 Howbeit, because by this Deed thou hast given great Occasion to the Enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the Child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

15 And Nathan departed unto his House: and the LORD struck the Child that Uriah's Wife bare unto David, and it was very sick.

16 David therefore besought God for the Child, and David fasted, and went in, and lay all Night upon the Earth.

17 And the Elders of his House arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the Earth: but he would not, neither did he eat Bread with them.

18 And it came to pass on the seventh Day, that the Child died: and the Servants of David feared to tell him that the Child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the Child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our Voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the Child is dead?

19 But when David saw that his Servants whispered, David perceived that the Child was dead: therefore David said unto his Servants, Is the Child dead? and they said, He is dead.

20 Then David arose from the Earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his Apparel, and came into the House of the LORD, and worshipped: then he came to his own House, and when he required, they set Bread before him, and he did eat.

21 Then said his Servants unto him, What Thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the Child while it was alive, but when the Child was dead, thou didst rise and eat Bread.

22 And

416 I H S A M U E L.

22 And he said, While the Child was yet alive, I fasted and wept : for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the Child may live ?

23 But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast ? can I bring him back again ? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

24 And David comforted Bath-sheba his Wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her : and she bare a Son, and he called his Name Solomon ; and the LORD loved him.

25 And he sent by the Hand of Nathan the Prophet ; and he called his Name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.

26 And Joab fought against Rabbah of the Children of Ammon, and took the royal City.

27 And Joab sent Messengers to David, and said, I have fought against Rabbah, and have taken the City of Waters.

28 Now therefore gather the rest of the People together, and encamp against the City, and take it : lest I take the City, and it be called after my Name.

29 And David gathered all the People together, and went to Rabbah, and fought against it, and took it.

C H A P. XIII.

1 *Ammon loving Tamar, by Jonadab's Counsel feigning himself sick, ravisheth her : 15 He hateth her, and turneth her away : 23 Is slain by Absalom.*

C H A P. XIV.

1 *Joab suborning a Widow of Tekoah to incline the King's Heart to fetch home Absalom, 23 bringeth him to Jerusalem.*

C H A P. XV.

1 *Absalom stealeth the Hearts of Israel : 10 He maketh a Conspiracy. 15 David fleeth from Jerusalem.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass after this, that Absalom prepared him Chariots, and Horses, and fifty Men to run before him.

2 And Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the Way of the Gate : and it was so, that when any Man, that had a Controversy, came to the King for Judgment, then Absalom called

II. S A M U E L. 417

called unto him, and said, Of what City art thou? And he said, Thy Servant is of one of the Tribes of Israel.

3 And Absalom said unto him, See, thy Matters are good and right, but there is no Man deputed of the King to hear thee.

4 Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made Judge in the Land, that every Man which hath any Suit or Cause, might come unto me, and I would do him Justice.

5 And it was so, that when any Man came nigh to him to do him Obeisance, he put forth his Hand, and took him and kissed him.

6 And on this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the King for Judgment: so Absalom stole the Hearts of the Men of Israel.

7 And it came to pass after forty Years, that Absalom said unto the King, I pray thee, let me go and pay my Vow, which I have vowed unto the LORD in Hebron.

8 For thy Servant vowed a Vow while I abode at Geshur in Syria, saying, If the LORD shall bring me again indeed to Jerusalem, then I will serve the LORD.

9 And the King said unto him, Go in Peace. So he arose and went to Hebron.

10 But Absalom sent Spies throughout all the Tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the Sound of the Trumpet, then ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron.

11 And with Absalom went two hundred Men out of Jerusalem, that were called, and they went in their SIMPLICITY, and they knew not any thing.

12 And Absalom sent for Ahithaphel the Gilonite, David's Counsellor: and the Conspiracy was strong; for the People increased continually with Absalom.

13 And there came a Messenger to David, saying, The Hearts of the Men of Israel are after Absalom.

14 ¶ And David said unto all his Servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: make speed to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly, and bring Evil upon us, and smite the City with the Edge of the Sword.

P S A L. III.

A Psalm of David when he fled from Absalom his Son.

LORD, how are they increased that trouble me? many are they that rise up against me.

2 Many there be which say of my Soul, There is no Help for him in God.

3 But thou, O LORD, art a Shield for me; my Glory, and the Lifter up of mine Head.

4 I cried unto the LORD with my
H h h 15 And

15 And the King's Servants said unto the King, Behold, thy Servants are ready to do whatsoever my Lord the King shall appoint.

16 And the King went forth, and all his Household after him : and the King left ten Women, which were Concubines, to keep the House.

17 And the King went forth, and all the People after him, and tarried in a Place that was far off.

18 And all his Servants passed on beside him ; six hundred Men which came after him from Gath, passed on before the King.

23 And all the Countrey wept with a loud Voice, and all the People passed over : the King also himself passed over the Brook Kidron, and all the People passed over toward the way of the Wilderness.

24 And lo, Zadok also, and all the Levites were with him, bearing the ARK of the Covenant of GOD, and they set down the Ark of GOD ; and Abiathar went up, until all the People had done passing out of the City.

25 And the King said unto Zadok, Carry back the ARK of GOD into the City : if I shall find FAVOUR in the Eyes of the LORD, he will BRING me again, and SHEW me both it, and his Habitation.

26 But if he thus say, I have no Delight in thee : behold, here AM I, LET him do to me as SEEMETH good unto HIM.

27 The King said also unto Zadok the Priest, Art not thou a Seer ? return into the City in peace, and your two Sons with you, Ahimaaz thy Son, and Jonathan the Son of Abiathar.

28 See, I will tarry in the Plain of the Wilderness, until there come word from you to certify me.

29 Zadok therefore and Abiathar carried the Ark of GOD again to Jerusalem ; and they tarried there.

30 And David went up by the ASCENT of MOUNT OLIVET, and WEPT as he went up, and had his Head covered, and he went BARE-FOOT ; and all the People that was with him,

voice, and he heard me out of his holy Hill.

5 I laid me down and slept ; I awaked, for the LORD SUSTAINED me.

6 I will not be AFRAID of ten thousands of People, that have set themselves against me round about.

7 Arise, O LORD, SAVE ME, O my GOD ; for thou hast smitten all mine Enemies upon the Cheek bone : thou hast broken the Teeth of the Ungodly.

8 SALVATION belongeth unto the LORD : thy Blessing is upon thy People.

II. S A M U E L. 419

him, covered every Man his Head, and they went up, **WEeping** as they went up.

31 And one told David, saying, Ahithophel is among the Conspirators with Absalom. And David said, O Lord, I pray thee, turn the **COUNSEL** of Ahithophel into **FOOLISHNESS**.

32 And it came to pass, that when David was come to the Top of the Mount, where he **WORSHIPPED** God, behold, Hushai the Archite came to meet him, with his Coat rent, and Earth upon his Head :

33 Unto whom David said, If thou passest on with me, then shalt thou be a Burthen unto me.

34 But if thou return to the City, and say unto Absalom, I will be thy Servant, O King, as I have been thy Father's Servant hitherto, so will I now also be thy Servant : then mayest thou for me **DEFEAT** the Counsel of Ahithophel.

35 And hast not thou there with thee Zadok and Abiathar the Priests ? therefore it shall be, that what Thing soever thou shalt hear out of the King's House, thou shalt tell it to Zadok and Abiathar the Priests.

36 Behold, they have there with them their two Sons, Ahimaaz Zadok's Son, and Jonathan Abiathar's Son : and by them ye shall send unto me every thing that ye can hear.

37 So Hushai David's Friend came into the City, and Absalom came into Jerusalem.

C H A P. XVI.

1 Ziba by false Suggestions obtaineth his Master's Inheritance.
5 Shimei curseth David. 9 David abstaineth, and restraineth others from Revenge. 20 Ahithophel's Counsel.

C H A P. XVII.

1 Ahithophel's Counsel overthrown by Hushai, according to God's Appointment. 15 Secret Intelligence is sent unto David.
23 Ahithophel hangeth himself.

C H A P. XVIII.

1 David viewing the Armies, giveth them Charge of Absalom.
9 Absalom is slain by Joab. 33 David lamenteth him.

Ver. 1 **A**ND David numbred the People that were with him, and set Captains of Thoufands, and Captains of Hundreds over them.

2 And David fent forth a Third part of the People under the Hand of Joab, and a Third part under the Hand of Abishai the Son of Zeruiah Joab's Brother, and a Third part under the Hand of Ittai the Gittite : and the King said unto the People, I will surely go forth with you myself also.

3 But the People answered, Thou shalt not go forth : for if we flee away, they will not care for us ; neither if half of us die, will they care for us : but now thou art worth ten thousand of us : therefore now it is better that thou succour us out of the City.

4 And the King said unto them, What seemeth you best, I will do. And the King stood by the Gate-side, and all the People came out by Hundreds, and by Thoufands.

5 And the King commanded Joab, and Abishai, and Ittai, saying, Deal gently for my sake with the young Man, even with Absalom. And all the People heard when the King gave all the Captains Charge concerning Absalom.

6 So the People went out into the Field against Israel : and the Battle was in the Wood Ephraim ;

7 Where the People of Israel were slain before the Servants of David, and there was there a great Slaughter that Day of twenty thousand Men.

8 For the Battle was there scattered over the Face of all the Countrey : and the Wood devoured more People that Day than the Sword devoured.

9 And Absalom met the Servants of David ; and Absalom rode upon a Mule, and the Mule went under the thick Boughs of a great Oak, and his Head caught hold of the Oak, and he was taken up between the Heaven and the Earth, and the Mule that was under him went away.

10 And a certain Man saw it, and told Joab, and said, Behold, I saw Absalom hanged in an Oak.

11 And Joab said unto the Man that told him, And behold, thou sawest him, and why didst thou not smite him there to the Ground, and I would have given thee ten Shekels of Silver, and a Girdle ?

12 And the Man said unto Joab, Though I should receive a thousand Shekels of Silver in mine Hand, yet would I not put forth mine Hand against the King's Son : for in our hearing

II. S A M U E L. 421

Hearing the King charged thee, and Abisnai, and Ittai, saying, Beware that none touch the young Man Abfalom.

13 Otherwise, I should have wrought Falshood against mine own Life: for there is no Matter hid from the King, and thou thyself wouldst have set thyself against me.

14 Then said Joab, I may not tarry thus with thee. And he took three Darts in his Hand, and thrust them through the Heart of Abfalom, while he was yet alive in the midst of the Oak.

15 And ten young Men that bare Joab's Armour, compassed about, and smote Abfalom, and slew him.

16 And Joab blew the Trumpet, and the People returned from pursuing after Israel: for Joab held back the People.

17 And they took Abfalom, and cast him into a great Pit in the Wood, and laid a very great heap of Stones upon him: and all Israel fled every one to his Tent.

18 Now Abfalom in his Life-time had taken and reared up for himself a Pillar, which is in the King's Dale: for he said, I have no Son to keep my Name in Remembrance: and he called the Pillar after his own Name, and it is called unto this Day, Abfalom's Place.

C H A P. XIX.

1 *Joab causeth the King to cease his Mourning.* 9 *The Israelites bring the King back.* 11 *David sendeth to the Priests to incite them of Judah.* 18 *Shimei is pardoned.*

C H A P. XX.

1 *Sheba maketh a Party in Israel.* 4 *Amasa is slain.* 14 *Joab pursueth Sheba unto Abel.* 16 *A wise Woman saveth the City by Sheba's Head.*

C H A P. XXI.

1 *The three Years Famine for the Gibeonites cease, by hanging seven of Saul's Sons.* 10 *Rizpah's Kindness unto the Dead.* 12 *David burieth the Bones of Saul and Jonathan.* Four *Valiants of David slay four Giants.*

C H A P.

C H A P. XXII.

A Psalm of Thanksgiving for God's powerful Deliverance, and manifold Blessings.

Ver. 1 **A**ND * David spake unto the LORD the Words of this Song, in the Day that the LORD had DELIVERED him out of the Hand of all his Enemies, and out of the Hand of Saul.

2 And he said, The LORD is my ROCK, and my Fortrefs, and my DELIVERER.

3 The GOD of my ROCK, in him will I TRUST : he is my SHIELD, and the Horn of my Salvation, my high Tower, and my REFUGE, my SAVIOUR ; thou savest me from Violence.

4 I will CALL on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised : so shall I be saved from mine Enemies.

5 When the Waves of Death compassed me : the Floods of UNGODLY Men made me afraid.

6 The SORROWS of HELL compassed me about : the SNARES of Death prevented me.

7 In my Distress I CALLED upon the LORD, and cried to my GOD, and he did hear my Voice out of his Temple, and my Cry did enter into his Ears.

8 Then the Earth shook and trembled : the Foundations of Heaven moved and shook because he was wroth.

9 There went up a Smoke out of his Nostrils, and Fire out of his Mouth devoured : Coals were kindled by it.

10 He bowed the Heavens also, and came down : and Darknes was under his Feet.

11 And he rode upon a Cherub, and did fly : and he was seen upon the Wings of the Wind.

12 And he made Darknes Pavilions round about him, dark Waters, and thick Clouds of the Skies.

13 Through the Brightnes before him were Coals of Fire kindled.

14 The LORD thundered from Heaven, and the most HIGH uttered his Voice.

15 And he sent out Arrows, and scattered them ; Lightning, and discomfited them.

* This Song is, with very little Variation, recited in the 18th Psalm.

II. S A M U E L. 423

16 And the Channels of the Sea appeared, the Foundations of the World were discovered, at the rebuking of the LORD, at the Blast of the Breath of his Nostrils.

17 He sent from above, he took me : he drew me out of many Waters.

18 He delivered me from my strong Enemy, and from them that hated me : for they were too strong for me.

19 They PREVENTED me in the Day of my Calamity : but the LORD was my Stay.

20 He brought me forth also into a large Place : he DELIVERED me, because he delighted in me.

21 And the LORD rewarded me according to my Righteousness : according to the Cleanness of my Hands hath he recompensed me.

22 For I have KEPT the Ways of the LORD, and have not WICKEDLY departed from my God.

23 For all his JUDGEMENTS were before me : and as for his Statutes, I did not depart from them.

24 I was also upright before him, and have KEPT myself from my INIQUITY.

25 Therefore the LORD hath recompensed me according to my Righteousness : according to my Cleanness in his Eye-sight.

26 With the Merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful, and with the upright Man thou wilt shew thyself upright.

27 With the Pure thou wilt shew thyself pure : and with the Froward thou wilt shew thyself unfavoury.

28 And the afflicted People thou wilt save : but thine Eyes are upon the Haughty, that thou mayest bring them down.

29 For thou art my LAMP, O LORD : and the LORD will LIGHTEN my DARKNESS.

30 For by thee I have run through a Troop : by my GOD have I leaped over a Wall.

31 As for GOD, his Way is perfect ; the Word of the LORD is tried : he is a Buckler to all them that trust in him.

32 For who is GOD, save the LORD ? and who is a Rock, save our God ?

33 GOD is my STRENGTH and POWER : and he maketh my Way perfect.

34 He maketh my Feet like Hinds Feet : and setteth me upon my high Places.

35 He

424 II. S A M U E L.

35 He teacheth my Hands to war: so that a Bow of Steel is broken by mine Arms.

36 Thou hast also given me the Shield of thy SALVATION: and thy Gentleness hath made me great.

37 Thou hast enlarged my Steps under me: so that my Feet did not slip.

38 I have pursued mine Enemies, and destroyed them: and turned not again until I had consumed them.

39 And I have consumed them, and wounded them, that they could not arise: yea, they are fallen under my Feet.

40 For thou hast GIRDLED me with STRENGTH to Battle: them that rose up against me, hast thou subdued under me.

41 Thou hast also given me the Necks of mine Enemies, that I might destroy them that hate me.

42 They looked, but there was none to save: even unto the LORD, but he answered them not.

43 Then did I beat them as small as the Dust of the Earth, I did stamp them as the Mire of the Street, and did spread them abroad.

44 Thou also hast delivered me from the STRIVINGS of my People, thou hast kept me to be HEAD of the HEATHEN: a People which I knew not, shall serve me.

45 Strangers shall submit themselves unto me: as soon as they hear, they shall be obedient unto me.

46 Strangers shall fade away, and they shall be afraid out of their close Places.

47 The LORD liveth, and blessed be my ROCK: and exalted be the GOD of the Rock of my SALVATION.

48 It is GOD that avengeth me, and that bringeth down the People under me,

49 And that bringeth me forth from mine Enemies: thou also hast lifted me up on high above them that rose up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent Man.

50 Therefore I will give Thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the Heathen, and I will sing Praises unto thy Name.

51 He is the TOWER of SALVATION for his King: and sheweth Mercy to his Anointed, unto David, and to his Seed for evermore.

CHAP.

C H A P. XXIII.

1 *David professeth his Faith in GOD's Promises : 8 A Catalogue of his mighty Men.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW ^h these be the last Words of David : David the Son of Jesse said, and the Man who was raised up on high, the ANOINTED of the GOD of Jacob, and the SWEET PSALMIST of Israel said,

2 The SPIRIT of the LORD SPAKE by ME, and his WORD was in my Tongue.

3 The GOD of Israel said, the ROCK of Israel spake to me, He that RULETH over Men must be JUST, RULING in the FEAR of GOD.

4 And he shall be as the LIGHT of the Morning, when the Sun riseth, even a Morning without Clouds : as the tender Grass springing out of the Earth by clear shining after Rain.

5 * Although my House be not so with GOD ; yet he hath made with me an EVERLASTING COVENANT, ORDERED in all Things and SURE : for this is all my SALVATION, and all my DESIRE, although he make it not to GROW.

6 But the Sons of Belial shall be all of them as Thorns thrust away, because they cannot be taken with Hands.

7 But the Man that shall touch them, must be fenced with Iron, and the Staff of a Spear, and they shall be utterly burnt with Fire in the same Place.

^b Psal. lxxxix. 1 I will sing of the MERCIES of the LORD for EVER : with my Mouth will I make known thy FAITHFULNESS to all Generations.

2 For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever : thy FAITHFULNESS shalt thou ESTABLISH in the very HEAVENS.

19 Then thou spakest in Vision to thy HOLY ONE, and saidst, I have LAID HELP upon one that is MIGHTY, I have EXALTED ONE CHOSEN out of the People.

20 I have found DAVID my SERVANT : with my holy Oil have I ANOINTED him.

C H A P. XXIV.

1 *David numbrell the People : 10 He having three Plagues propounded by GOD, repenteth and chuseth the three Days Pestilence. 18 The Plague stayed.*

* David was in many Instances a Type of the MESSIAH, from whom, according to the Flesh, he was to descend,

Ver. 1 **A**ND again the ANGER of the LORD was KINDLED against ISRAEL, and he moved David against them, to say, Go number Israel and Judah.

2 For the King said to Joab the Captain of the Host, which was with him, Go now through all the Tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, and number ye the People, that I may know the Number of the People.

3 And Joab said unto the King, Now the LORD thy GOD add unto the People (how many soever they be) an hundred-fold, and that the Eyes of my Lord the King may see it, but why doth my LORD the King delight in this Thing?

4 Notwithstanding, the King's Word prevailed against Joab, and against the Captains of the Host: and Joab and the Captains of the Host went out from the Presence of the King, to number the People of Israel.

5 And they passed over Jordan, and pitched in Aroer, on the Right side of the City that lieth in the midst of the River of Gad, and toward Jazer.

6 Then they came to Gilcad, and to the Land of Tah-tim-hodshi; and they came to Dan-jaan, and about to Zidon,

7 And came to the strong Hold of Tyre, and to all the Cities of the Hivites, and of the Canaanites: and they went out to the South of Judah, even to Beer-sheba.

8 So when they had gone through all the Land, they came to Jerusalem at the End of nine Months and twenty Days.

9 And Joab gave up the Sum of the Number of the People unto the King: and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant Men that drew the Sword; and the Men of Judah were five hundred thousand Men.

10 And David's HEART SMOTE him, after that he had numbred the People: and David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the Iniquity of thy Servant; for I have done very foolishly.

11 For when David was up in the Morning, the Word of the LORD came unto the Prophet Gad, David's Seer, saying,

12 Go and say unto David, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three Things; chuse thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.

13 So

13 So Gad came to David, and told him, and said unto him, Shall seven Years of Famine come unto thee in thy Land? or wilt thou flee three Months before thine Enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three Days Pestilence in thy Land? now advise, and see what Answer I shall return to him that sent me.

14 And David said unto Gad, I am in a GREAT STRAIT : let us FALL now into the the HAND of the LORD (for his MERCIES are great) and let me not FALL into the HAND of Man.

15 So the LORD sent a PESTILENCE upon Israel, from the Morning even to the time appointed ; and there died of the People from Dan even to Beer-sheba, seventy thousand Men.

16 And when the ANGEL stretched out his Hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented him of the Evil, and said to the Angel that destroyed the People, It is enough : stay now thine Hand. And the ANGEL of the LORD was by the Threshing-place of Araunah the Jebusite.

17 And David spake unto the LORD when he saw the ANGEL that smote the People, and said, Lo, I have SIN- NED, and I have DONE WICKEDLY : but these Sheep, what have they done? let thine Hand, I pray thee, be against me, and against my Father's House.

18 And Gad came that Day to David, and said unto him, Go up, rear an Altar unto the LORD in the Threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

19 And David, according to the Saying of Gad, went up as the LORD commanded.

20 And Araunah looked, and saw the King and his Servants coming on toward him : and Araunah went out and bowed himself before the King on his Face upon the Ground.

21 And Araunah said, Wherefore is my Lord the King come to his Servant? And David said, To buy the Thresh- ing-floor of thee, to build an Altar unto the LORD, that the Plague may be stayed from the People.

22 And Araunah said unto David, Let my Lord the King take and offer up what seemeth good unto him : behold, here be Oxen for Burnt-sacrifice, and Threshing-instruments, and other Instruments of the Oxen for Wood.

23 All these Things did Araunah, as a King, give unto

428 II. S A M U E L.

the King : and Araunah said unto the King, The LORD thy God accept thee.

24 And the King said unto Araunah, Nay ; but I surely buy it of thee at a Price : neither will I offer Burnt-offerings unto the LORD my God, of that which doth me nothing. So David bought the Threshing-floor, the Oxen, for fifty Shekels of Silver.

25 And David built there an ALTAR unto the LORD and offered Burnt-offerings and Peace-offerings : so the LORD was INTREATED for the Land, and the PLAGUE was STOPPED from Israel.

I CHRON. XXI.

28 At that Time, when David saw that the LORD ANSWERED him in the Threshing-floor of Ornan the Jafite, then he sacrificed there.

29 For the TABERNACLE of the LORD which MADE in the Wilderness, and the Altar of the Burnt-offering, were at that Season in the high Place at Gibeon.

30 But DAVID could not go before it to enquire of the LORD for he was AFRAID, because of the SWORD of the ANGELS of the LORD.





429

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
Kings of ISRAEL and JUDAH,
Abstracted from the Books of
KINGS and CHRONICLES.

I. CHRON. CHAP. XXII.

1 *David prepareth for the building of the Temple : 6 He instructeth Solomon in God's Promises and his Duty.*

Ver. 1



HEN David said, This is the House of the LORD GOD, and this is the Altar of the Burnt-offering for Israel.

2 And David commanded to gather together the Strangers that were in the Land of Israel, and he set Masons to hew wrought Stone to build the House of GOD.

3 And David prepared Iron in abundance for the Nails for the Doors of the Gates, and for the Joinings; and Brass in abundance without weight;

4 Also

430 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

4 Also Cedar-trees in abundance : for the Zidonians, and they of Tyre, brought much Cedar-wood to David.

5 And David said, Solomon my Son is young and tender, and the House that is to be builded for the LORD, must be EXCEEDING MAGNIFICAL, of FAME, and of GLORY throughout all Countries : I will therefore now make Preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his Death.

6 Then he called for Solomon his Son, and charged him to build an House for the LORD GOD of Israel.

7 And David said to Solomon, My Son, as for me, it was in my MIND to build an House unto the NAME of the LORD my GOD.

8 But the WORD of the LORD came unto me, saying, Thou hast shed Blood abundantly, and hast made great Wars : thou shalt not build an House unto my Name, because thou hast shed much Blood upon the Earth in my fight.

9 Behold, a Son shall be born to thee, who shall be a Man of REST, and I will give him REST from all his Enemies round about : for his Name shall be Solomon, and I will give PEACE and QUIETNESS unto Israel in his Days.

10 He shall build an House for my Name, and he shall be my Son, and I will be his Father, and I will establish the THRONE of his KINGDOM over Israel for EVER.

11 Now, my Son, the LORD be with thee, and prosper thou, and build the House of the LORD thy GOD, as he hath said of thee.

12 Only the LORD give thee WISDOM and UNDERSTANDING, and give thee Charge concerning Israel, that thou mayst KEEP the LAW of the LORD thy GOD.

13 Then shalt thou PROSPER, if thou takest heed to fulfil the Statutes and Judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel : be strong and of good Courage, DREAD not, nor be DISMAYED.

14 Now behold, in my Trouble I have prepared for the House of the LORD an * HUNDRED THOUSAND Talents of GOLD, and a THOUSAND THOUSAND Talents of SILVER ; and of Brasses, and Iron, without weight (for it is in abundance :) Timber also and Stone have I prepared, and thou mayest add thereto.

* Dr. Prideaux computes an Hebrew Talent of Silver at 450 l. Sterling ; and a Talent of Gold at 7200 l. Sterling : By this Computation 1000000 Talents of Silver will amount to 450 Millions of Pounds Sterling, and 100000 Talents of Gold will amount in Pounds Sterling to 7200 Millions, in both, 7650 Millions.

15 Moreover,

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 431

15 Moreover, there are Workmen with thee in abundance, Hewers, and Workers of Stone and Timber, and all manner of cunning Men for every manner of Work.

16 Of the GOLD, the SILVER, and the Brass, and the Iron, there is no NUMBER. Arise therefore, and be doing, and the LORD be with thee.

17 David also commanded all the Princes of Israel to help Solomon his Son, saying,

18 * Is not the LORD your GOD with you? and hath he not given you REST on every side? for he hath given the Inhabitants of the Land into mine Hand, and the LAND is SUBDUED before the LORD, and before his People.

19 Now set your HEART and your SOUL to SEEK the LORD your GOD; arise therefore, and build ye the Sanctuary of the LORD GOD, to bring the ARK of the COVENANT of the LORD, and the holy Vessels of GOD, into the House that is to be built in the Name of the LORD.

C H A P. XXIII.

1 *David in his old Age maketh Solomon King.* 2 *The Number and Distribution of the Levites.* 7 *The Families of the Gershonites.* 12 *The Sons of Kohath.* 21 *The Sons of Merari.* 24 *The Office of the Levites.*

Ver. 1 SO when David was old and full of Days, he made Solomon his Son King over Israel.

2 And he gathered together all the Princes of Israel, with the Priests and the Levites.

3 Now the Levites were numbred from the Age of thirty Years, and upward: and their Number by their Polls, Man by Man, was THIRTY and EIGHT THOUSAND.

4 Of which, TWENTY and FOUR THOUSAND were to set forward the WORK of the HOUSE of the LORD: and SIX THOUSAND were OFFICERS and JUDGES.

5 Moreover, FOUR THOUSAND were PORTERS, and FOUR THOUSAND PRAISED the LORD with the Instruments which I made (said David) to PRAISE therewith.

6 And DAVID DIVIDED them into COURSES among the Sons of Levi, namely, Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

13 The Sons of Amram; Aaron and Moses: and Aaron

* David here acknowledges, that all the Promises made to the Patriarchs, concerning the Land of Canaan, were exactly accomplished.

432 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

was separated, that he should sanctify the most holy Things, he and his Sons for ever, to burn Incense before the LORD, to minister unto him, and to bless in his Name for ever.

14 Now concerning Moses the Man of GOD, his Sons were named of the Tribe of Levi.

15 The Sons of Moses were Gershom and Eliezer.

25 David said, The LORD GOD of Israel hath given REST unto his People, that they may dwell in Jerusalem for ever;

26 And also unto the Levites: they shall no more carry the Tabernacle, nor any Vessels of it for the Service thereof.

28 Because their Office was to wait on the Sons of Aaron, for the Service of the House of the LORD, in the Courts, and in the Chambers, and in the purifying of all holy Things, and the Work of the Service of the House of GOD;

30 And to stand every MORNING to THANK and PRAISE the LORD, and likewise at EVEN:

31 And to offer all Burnt-sacrifices unto the LORD in the Sabbaths, in the New-moons, and on the set Feasts, by Number, according to the Order commanded unto them continually before the LORD:

32 And that they should keep the Charge of the Tabernacle of the Congregation, and the Charge of the HOLY PLACE, and the Charge of the Sons of Aaron their Brethren, in the Service of the House of the LORD.

C H A P. XXIV.

1 *The Divisions of the Sons of Aaron by Lot into four and twenty Orders.* 20 *The Kohathites,* 27 *and the Merarites divided by Lot.*

C H A P. XXV.

1 *The Number and Offices of the Singers.* 8 *Their Division by Lot into four and twenty Orders.*

Ver. 1 **M**OREOVER, David and the Captains of the Host separated to the Service of the Sons of ASAPH, and of HEMAN, and of JEDUTHUN, who should PROPHECY with HARPS, with PSALTERIES, and with CYMBALS:

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 433

CYMBALS : and the Number of the Workmen, according to their Service, was :

2 Of the Sons of Asaph, and under the Hands of Asaph, which **PROPHESIED** according to the Order of the King.

3 Of the Sons of Jeduthun, under the Hands of their Father, who **PROPHESIED** with a Harp, to give **THANKS**, and to **PRAISE** the **LORD**.

5 The Sons of Heman, the King's **SEER** in the **WORDS** of **GOD**, to lift up the Horn. And **GOD** gave to Heman fourteen Sons and three Daughters.

6 All these were under the Hands of their Father, for **SONGS** in the House of the **LORD** with Cymbals, Psalteries, and Harps for the Service of the House of **GOD**, according to the King's Order, to **ASAPH**, **JEDUTHUN**, and **HEMAN**.

7 So the Number of them, with their Brethren that were instructed in the **SONGS** of the **LORD**, even all that were cunning, was **TWO HUNDRED FOURSORE** and **EIGHT**.

8 And they cast **LOTS**, Ward against Ward, as well the small as the great, the Teacher as the Scholar.

C H A P. XXVI.

1 *The Division of the Porters.* 13 *The Gates assigned by Lot.*
20 *The Levites that had Charge of the Treasures.* 29 *Officers and Judges.*

C H A P. XXVII.

1 *The twelve Captains for every several Month.* 16 *The Princes of the twelve Tribes.* 23 *The numbering of the People is bindred.* 25 *David's several Officers.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW the Children of Israel after their Number, to wit, the chief Fathers and Captains of thousands and hundreds, and their Officers that served the King in any Matter of the Courses, which came in and went out Month by Month, throughout all the Months of the Year, of every Course were twenty and four thousand.

23 But David took not the Number of them from twenty Years old and under : because the **LORD** had said, he would increase Israel like to the Stars of the Heavens.

24 Joab the Son of Zeruiah began to number, but he
K k k finished

434 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

finished not, because there fell Wrath for it against Israel, neither was the Number put in the Account of the Chronicles of King David.

C H A P. XXVIII.

- 1 *David in a solemn Assembly, having declared God's Favour to him, and Promise to his Son Solomon, exhorteth them to fear God: 9, 20 He encourageth Solomon to build the Temple: 11 He giveth him Patterns for the Form; and Gold and Silver for the Materials.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND David assembled all the Princes of Israel, and the Captains of the Companies that ministred to the King by Course.

2 Then David the King stood up upon his Feet, and said, HEAR me, my Brethren, and my People, As for me, I had in mine HEART to build an HOUSE of REST for the ARK of the COVENANT of the LORD, and for the FOOTSTOOL of our GOD, and had made ready for the Building:

3 But GOD said unto me, Thou shalt not build an House for my NAME, because thou hast been a Man of WAR, and hast shed BLOOD.

4 ^{1 Gen xlix. 10} Howbeit, the LORD GOD of Israel CHOSE me before all the House of my Father to be King over Israel: for he hath chosen JUDAH to be RULER; and of the House of Judah, the House of my Father; and among the Sons of my Father, he liked me to make me King over all Israel:

5 And of all my Sons (for the LORD hath given me many Sons) he hath CHOSEN Solomon my Son to sit upon the Throne of the Kingdom of the LORD over Israel.

6 And he said unto me, Solomon, thy Son, he shall BUILD my House and my Courts: for I have chosen him to be my Son, and I will be his Father.

7 Moreover, I will ESTABLISH his Kingdom for EVER, if he be CONSTANT to DO MY COMMANDMENTS and my Judgments, as at this Day.

8 Now therefore in the sight of all Israel the Congregation of the LORD, and in the AUDIENCE of our GOD, KEEP and SEEK for all the COMMANDMENTS of the LORD
your

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 435

Your God : that ye may possess this good Land, and leave it for an Inheritance, for your Children after you for ever.

9 And thou, SOLOMON my Son, [I] KNOW thou the GOD of thy FATHER, and serve him with a [II] PERFECT HEART, and with a [III] WIL- LING MIND : for the LORD [IV] SEARCHETH ALL HEARTS, and understandeth all the IMAGINATIONS of the THOUGHTS : if thou [V] SEEK him, he will be FOUND of thee; but if thou [VI] FORSAKE him, he will CAST thee OFF for EVER.

10 Take heed now, for the LORD hath CHOSEN thee to build an House for the Sanctuary : be strong and do it.

11 Then David gave to Solomon his Son the PAT- TERN of the Porch, and of the Houses thereof, and of the Treasuries thereof, and of the upper Chambers there- of, and of the inner Parlours thereof, and of the Place of the Mercy-seat.

12 And the PATTERN of all that he had by the SPIRIT.

14 He gave of Gold by weight, for Things of Gold, for all Instruments of all man- ner of Service, Silver also for all Instruments of Silver, by weight, for all Instruments of every kind of Service.

15 Even the weight for the Candlesticks of Gold, and for their Lamps of Gold, by weight for every Candlestick,

[I] *John xvii. 3* This is LIFE ETER- NAL, that they might know thee, the only TRUE GOD, and JESUS CHRIST whom thou hast sent.

Mat. xi. 27 All Things are deliver- ed unto me of my Father, and no Man KNOWETH the Son, but the Father: neither KNOWETH any Man the Fa- ther, save the Son, and he to whom- soever the Son will reveal him.

28 Come unto me all ye that la- bour and are heavy laden, and I will give you Rest.

29 Take my Yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek, and lowly in Heart, and ye shall find Rest unto your Souls.

30 For my Yoke is easy, and my Burden is light.

[III] *Job viii. 20* Behold, God will not cast away a PERFECT Man, neither will he help the Evil doers.

2 *Sam. xxii. 33* God is my Strength and Power, and he maketh my Way PERFECT.

Psal. xlviii. 32 It is GOD that gird- eth me with Strength, and maketh my Way PERFECT.

Psal. xxxvii. 37 Mark the PERFECT Man, and behold the Upright : for the End of that Man is Peace.

Psal. cxix. 1 Blessed are the Unde- filed in the Way who walk in the Law of the LORD.

Prov. iv. 18 But the Path of the JUST is as the shining Light, that shineth more and more unto the PER- FECT Day.

Matth. v. 48 Be ye therefore PER- FECT, even as your Father which is in Heaven is PERFECT.

2 *Cor. xiii. 11* Be PERFECT, be of good Comfort, be of one Mind, live in Peace: and the God of Love and Peace shall be with you.

Col. i. 28 Whom we preach, warn- ing every Man, and teaching every Man in all WISDOM : that we may present every Man PERFECT in CHRIST JESUS.

2 *Tim. iii. 17* That the Man of God may be PERFECT, thoroughly furnished unto all good Works.

James i. 17 Every good Gift, and

K k k 2

and

436 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

and for the Lamps thereof :
and for the Candlesticks of
Silver by weight, both for
the Candlesticks, and also for
the Lamps thereof, according
to the Use of every Candle-
stick.

16 And by weight he gave
Gold for the Tables of Shew-
bread, and likewise Silver for
the Tables of Silver.

17 Also pure Gold for the
Flesh-hooks, and the Bowls,
and the Cups : and for the
golden Basons :

18 And for the Altar of
Incense, refined Gold by
weight, and Gold for the
Pattern of the Chariot of the
Cherubims, that spread out
their Wings, and covered the
ARK of the COVENANT of
the LORD.

19 All this, said David, the
LORD made me UNDER-
STAND in WRITING by his
Hand upon me, even all the
Works of this Pattern.

20 And David said to So-
lomon his Son, Be strong and
of good Courage, and do it :
fear not, nor be dismayed,
for the LORD GOD, even my
GOD, will be with thee, he
will not FAIL thee, nor FOR-
SAKE thee, until thou hast
finished all the Work for the
Service of the House of the
LORD.

21 And behold, the Courses
of the Priests and the Levites,
even they shall be with thee,
for all the Service of the

every PERFECT GIFT is from above,
and cometh down from the FATHER
of LIGHTS, with whom is no Varia-
bleness, neither Shadow of turning.

2 Cor. vii. 1 Having therefore these
PROMISES, let us cleanse ourselves
from all Filthiness of the FLESH and
SPIRIT, perfecting HOLINESS in the
FEAR of GOD.

[III] *Psal.* cx. 3 Thy People shall be
WILLING in the Day of thy Power, in
the Beauties of Holiness from the
Womb of the Morning : thou hast
the Dew of thy Youth.

Isa. i. 19 If ye be WILLING and o-
bedient, ye shall eat the Good of
the Land.

[IV] *Jer.* xvii. 9 The Heart is deceit-
ful above all Things, and desperately
wicked, who can know it ?

To I the LORD SEARCH the Heart,
I try the Reins, even to give to eve-
ry Man according to his Way, and
according to the Fruit of his Doings.

Heb. iv. 12 For the Word of God
is quick and powerful, and sharper
than any two edged Sword, piercing
even to the dividing asunder of Soul
and Spirit, and of the Joints and
Marrow, and is a Discerner of the
Thoughts and Intentions of the Heart.

[V] *Psal.* ix. 10 And they that know
thy Name will put their Trust in thee ;
for thou, LORD, hast NOT FORSAKEN
them that SEEK thee.

Psal. xxiv. 6 This is the Genera-
tion of them that SEEK him, that
SEEK thy Face, O Jacob.

Psal. lxxiii. 1 O GOD, thou art my
GOD, early will I SEEK thee : my Soul
thirsteth for thee, my Flesh longeth
for thee in a dry and thirsty Land
where no Water is.

Psal. lxx. 4 Let all those that SEEK
thee rejoice, and be glad in thee :
and let such as love thy Salvation
say continually, Let God be magni-
fied.

Psal. cxix. 2 Blessed are they that
keep his Testimonies, and that SEEK
him with the whole HEART.

Prov. viii. 17 I love them that love
me, and those that SEEK me early
shall FIND me.

Cant. iii. 2 I will rise now, and go
about the City in the Streets, and in
House

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 437

House of God, and there shall be with thee for all manner of Workmanship, every willing skilful Man, for any manner of Service : also the Princes and all the People will be wholly at thy Commandment.

the Broad ways I will SEEK him whom my Soul LOVETH.

I/a. xi. 10 And in that Day there shall be a Root of Jesse, which shall stand for an Ensign of the People ; to it shall the GENTILES SEEK, and his Rest shall be glorious.

I/a. xxvi. 9 With my Soul have I DESIRED thee in the Night, yes, with my Spirit within me will I SEEK thee early.

I/a. xlv. 19 I have not spoken in secret, in a dark Place of the Earth : I said not unto the Seed of Jacob, SEEK ye me in VAIN.

Amos v. 4 For thus saith the LORD, unto the House of Israel, SEEK ye me, and ye shall live.

SEEK him that maketh the seven Stars and Orion, and turneth the Shadow of Death into the Morning, and maketh the Day-dark with Night : that calleth for the Waters of the Sea, and poureth them upon the Face of the Earth, the LORD is his Name

Math. vi. 33 SEEK ye first the Kingdom of God and his RIGHTEOUSNESS, and all these Things shall be ADDED unto you.

Rem. ii. 7 To them, who by patient Continuance, in well-doing SEEK for Glory, and Honour, and Immortality, ETERNAL LIFE.

Heb. xi. 6 But without Faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to GOD must BELIEVE that he is, and that he is a Rewarder of them that diligently SEEK him.

Col. iii. 1 If ye then be risen with CHRIST, SEEK those Things which are ABOVE, where CHRIST sitteth on the Right Hand of GOD.

[VI] *I/sa. i. 28* And the Destruction of the Transgressors, and of the Sinners shall be together, and they that FORSAKE the LORD shall be consumed.

Jer. xvii. 13 O LORD, the Hope of Israel, all that FORSAKE thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the Earth, because they have FORSAKEN the LORD, the Fountain of living Waters.

Jer. ii. 13 For my People have committed two Evils : they have FORSAKEN me the Fountain of living Waters, and hewed them out Cisterns, broken Cisterns that can hold no Water.

Psal. ix. 10 And they that know thy Name will put their Trust in thee, for thou LORD hast not FORSAKEN them that seek thee. *

* This Charge and Instruction given by David to his Son, was at the Time when he was about to resign his Crown and Kingdom to him, and when he had in his View the near Approach of his own Death. It containing in Miniature many of the principal Duties that are requisite to eternal Salvation, as may appear by the References hereto annexed, is therefore a very proper Lesson for Parents, Masters, and Mistresses to teach the Children under their Care ; and that it may be imprinted in their Memories, they should be required often to repeat the same.

C H A P. XXIX.

1 David by his Example and Intreaty, 6 causeth the Princes and People to offer willingly. 10 David's Thanksgiving and Prayer. 20 The People having blessed GOD, and sacrificed, make Solomon King.

Ver. 1 FURTHERMORE, David the King said unto all the Congregation, Solomon my Son, whom alone
GOD

438 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

GOD hath chosen, is yet young and tender, and the **W**ork is great : for the **P**ALACE is not for **M**AN, but for the **L**ORD **G**OD.

2 Now I have prepared with all my **M**ight for the **H**ouse of my **G**OD, the **G**old for **T**hings to be made of **G**old, and the **S**ilver for **T**hings of **S**ilver, and the **B**rafs for **T**hings of **B**rafs, the **I**ron for **T**hings of **I**ron, and **W**ood for **T**hings of **W**ood; **O**nyx-stones, and **S**tones to be set, **G**listering-stones, and of divers **C**olours, and all manner of precious **S**tones, and **M**arble-stones in abundance.

3 Moreover, because I have set my **A**FFECTION to the **H**ouse of my **G**OD, I have of mine own proper **G**ood, of **G**old and **S**ilver, which I have given to the **H**ouse of my **G**OD, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy **H**ouse,

4 Even three thousand **T**alents of **G**old, of the **G**old of **O**phir, and seven thousand **T**alents of refined **S**ilver, to overlay the **W**alls of the **H**ouses withal.

5 And who then is willing to consecrate his **S**ervice this **D**ay unto the **L**ORD?

6 Then the chief of the **F**athers and **P**rinces of the **T**ribes of **I**srael; and the **C**aptains of **T**housands, and of **H**undreds, with the **R**ulers over the **K**ing's **W**ork, offered willingly,

7 And gave for the **S**ervice of the **H**ouse of **G**OD, of **G**old, five thousand **T**alents, and ten thousand **D**rams; and of **S**ilver, ten thousand **T**alents; and of **B**rafs, eighteen thousand **T**alents; and one hundred thousand **T**alents of **I**ron.

8 And they with whom precious **S**tones were found, gave them to the **T**reasure of the **H**ouse of the **L**ORD, by the **H**and of **J**ehiel the **G**ershonite.

9 Then the **P**eople rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with **P**ERFECT **H**EART they offered willingly to the **L**ORD : and **D**avid the **K**ing also rejoiced with great **J**oy.

10 Wherefore **D**avid blessed the **L**ORD before all the **C**ONGREGATION : and **D**avid said, **B**LESSED be thou **L**ORD **G**OD of **I**srael our **F**ather, for **E**VER and **E**VER.

11 ^a Thine, **O** **L**ORD, is the **G**R-EAT-N-E-S-S, and the **P**O-W-E-R, and the **G**L-O-R-Y, and the **V**I-C-T-O-R-Y, and the **M**A-J-E-S-T-Y : for all that is in the **H**E-A-V-E-N and in the

^a **R**ev. iv. 11 Thou art **W**ORTHY, **O** **L**ORD, to receive **G**L-O-R-Y, and **H**O-N-O-U-R, and **P**O-W-E-R ; for thou hast **C**R-E-A-T-E-D all **T**H-I-N-G-S, and for thy **P**L-E-A-S-U-R-E they are and were **C**R-E-A-T-E-D.

^b **R**ev. v. 13 And every **C**R-E-A-T-U-R-E which is in **H**E-A-V-E-N, and on the

EA-R-T-H

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 439

EARTH is thine; thine is the Kingdom, O **LORD**, and thou art **EXALTED** as **HEAD** **ABOVE** all.

12 Both **RICHES** and **HONOUR** come of thee, and thou **REIGNEST** over all, and in thine Hand is **Power** and **Might**, and in thine Hand it is to make **GREAT**, and to give **Strength** unto all.

13 Now therefore, our **GOD**, we thank thee, and **PRAISE** thy **GLORIOUS** **NAME**.

14 But who am I, and what is my **People**, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all **THINGS** come of thee, and of thine **OWN** have we given thee.

ever, whose Dominion is an **EVERLASTING** **DOMINION**, and his **KINGDOM** is from Generation to Generation.

35 And all the **Inhabitants** of the **Earth** are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his **WILL** in the **ARMY** of **HEAVEN**, and among the **INHABITANTS** of the **EARTH**: and none can stay his Hand, or say unto him, What dost thou?

Dan. vi. 25 King **Darius** wrote unto all **People**, **Nations**, and **Languages** that dwell in all the **Earth**, **Peace** be multiplied unto you.

26 I make a **Decree**, that in every **DOMINION** in my **KINGDOM**, **MEN** **TREMBLE** and **FEAR** before the **GOD** of **Daniel**: for he is the **LIVING** **GOD**, and **STEDFAST** for **EVER**, and his **KINGDOM** that which shall not be **DESTROYED**, and his **DOMINION** shall be even unto the **END**.

27 He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh **Signs** and **Wonders** in **Heaven** and in **Earth**, who hath delivered **Daniel** from the **Power** of the **Lions**.

15 ¹ For we are **STRANGERS** before thee, and **SOJOURNERS**, as were all our **FATHERS**: our **DAYS** on the **EARTH** are as a **SHADOW**, and there is none **ABIDING**.

16 O **LORD** our **GOD**, all

EARTH, and under the **EARTH**, and such as are in the **SEA**, and all that are in them, heard I, saying, **BLESSING**, and **HONOUR**, and **GLORY**, and **POWER**, be unto him that sitteth upon the **THRONE**, and unto the **LAMB** for **EVER** and **EVER**.

Matth. vi. 13 For thine is the **KINGDOM**, and the **POWER**, and the **GLORY**, for **EVER**. Amen.

1 Tim. i. 17 Now unto the **KING** **ETERNAL**, **IMMORTAL**, **INVISIBLE**, the only **WISE** **GOD**, be **HONOUR** and **GLORY** for **EVER** and **EVER**. Amen.

Col. i. 15 Who is the Image of the **INVISIBLE** **GOD**, the **First-born** of every **Creature**:

16 For by him were all **THINGS** **CREATED** that are in **HEAVEN**, and that are in **EARTH** **VISIBLE** and **INVISIBLE**, whether they be **THRONES**, or **DOMINIONS**, or **PRINCIPALITIES**, or **POWERS**: all **THINGS** were created by him, and for him.

17 And he is before all **THINGS**, and by him all **THINGS** **CONSIST**.

Dan. iv. 34 And at the **End** of the **Days**, I **Nebuchadnezzar** lift up mine **Eyes** unto **Heaven**, and mine **Understanding** returned to me, and I **BLESSED** the **MOST** **HIGH**, and I **PRAISED** and **HONOURED** him that liveth for

ever, whose Dominion is an EVERLASTING DOMINION, and his KINGDOM is from Generation to Generation.

35 And all the INHABITANTS of the EARTH are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his WILL in the ARMY of HEAVEN, and among the INHABITANTS of the EARTH: and none can stay his Hand, or say unto him, What dost thou?

Dan. vi. 25 King Darius wrote unto all People, Nations, and Languages that dwell in all the Earth, Peace be multiplied unto you.

26 I make a Decree, that in every DOMINION in my KINGDOM, MEN TREMBLE and FEAR before the GOD of Daniel: for he is the LIVING GOD, and STEDFAST for EVER, and his KINGDOM that which shall not be DESTROYED, and his DOMINION shall be even unto the END.

27 He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh Signs and Wonders in Heaven and in Earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the Power of the Lions.

¹ *Psal. xxxix. 11* When thou with **Rebukes** dost correct **Man** for **Iniquity**, thou makest his **Beauty** to consume away like a **Moth**: surely every **Man** is **VANITY**.

12 For I am a **STRANGER** with thee, and a **SOJOURNER**, as all my **FATHERS** were.

Heb. xi. 13 These all died in **Faith**, not having received the **Promises**, but

this

440 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

this **STORE** that we have prepared to build thee an **House** for thine holy Name, **COMETH** of thine **HAND**, and is all **THINE OWN**.

17 I know also, my **GOD**, that thou **TRIEST** the **HEART**, and hast **Pleasure** in **UPRIGHTNESS**. As for me, in the **UPRIGHTNESS** of mine **Heart** I have willingly offered all these **Things**: and now have I seen with **Joy**, thy **People** which are present here, to offer willingly unto thee.

18 O **LORD GOD** of **Abraham**, **Isaac**, and of **Israel** our **Fathers**, keep this for ever in the **IMAGINATION** of the **THOUGHTS** of the **Heart** of thy **People**, and **PREPARE** their **HEARTS** unto thee.

19 And give unto **Solomon** my **Son** a **PERFECT HEART** to **KEEP** thy **Commandments**, thy **Testimonies**, and thy **Statutes**, and to do all these **Things**, and to build the **Palace** for the which I have made **Provision**.

20 And **David** said to all the **Congregation**, Now **BLESS** the **LORD** your **GOD**. And all the **Congregation** blessed the **LORD GOD** of their **Fathers**, and **BOWED DOWN** their **Heads**, and **WORSHIPPED** the **LORD** and the **King**.

21 And they sacrificed **Sacrifices** unto the **LORD**, and offered **Burnt-offerings** unto the **LORD** on the **Morrow** after that **Day**, even a thousand **Bullocks**, a thousand **Rams**, and a thousand **Lambs**, with their **Drink-offerings** and **Sacrifices** in abundance for all **Israel**.

22 And did eat and drink before the **LORD** on that **Day** with great **Gladness**, and they made **Solomon** the **Son** of **David** **King** the second time, and anointed him unto the **LORD**, to be the chief **Governour**, and **Zadok** to be **Priest**.

23 Then

having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed they were **STRANGERS** and **PILGRIMS** on the **Earth**.

1 *Pet. ii. 11* Dearly Beloved, I beseech you as **STRANGERS** and **PILGRIMS**, **ABSTAIN** from **FLESHLY LUSTS**, which war against the **Soul**.

Psal. cii. 14 My **Days** are like a **SHADOW** that declineth: and I am withered like **Grass**.

Psal. cxliv. 4 Man is like to **Vanity**: his **Days** are as a **SHADOW** that declineth.

Job iv. 16 I heard a **Voice**, saying,

17 Shall **MORTAL MAN** be more just than **GOD**? shall a **Man** be more pure than his **MAKER**?

18 Behold, he put no **Trust** in his **Servants**: and his **Angels** he charged with **FOLLY**.

19 How much less in them that dwell in **HOUSES** of **CLAY**, whose **Foundation** is in the **Dust**, which are crushed before the **Moth**.

20 They are destroyed from **Morning** to **Evening**, they perish for ever without any regarding it.

Job viii. 9 (For we are but of **Yesterday**, and know nothing, because our **Days** on the **Earth** are a **SHADOW**.)

Job xiv. 1 Man that is born of a **Woman**, is of few **Days**, and full of **Trouble**.

2 He cometh forth like a **Flower**, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a **SHADOW**, and continueth not.

3 And dost thou **OPEN** thine **Eyes** upon such an one, and bringest me into **Judgment** with thee.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 441

23 Then Solomon sat on the THRONE of the LORD as King, instead of David his Father, and prospered, and all Israel obeyed him.

24 And all the Princes of the mighty Men, and all the Sons likewise of King David submitted themselves unto Solomon the King.

25 And the LORD magnified Solomon exceedingly in the fight of all Israel, and bestowed upon him such Royal Majesty as had not been on any King before him in Israel.

I. KINGS. CHAP. I.

1 *Abishag cherisheth David in his extrem Age. 5 Adonijah David's Darling usurpeth the Kingdom. 11 By the Counsel of Nathan, 15 Bath-sheba moveth the King, 22 and Nathan secondeth her. 28 David reneweth his Oath to Bath-sheba. 32 Solomon, by David's Appointment, being anointed King by Zadok and Nathan, the People triumph. 41 Jonathan bringing this News, Adonijah's Guests flee. 50 Adonijah fleeing to the Horns of the Altar, upon his good Behaviour is dismissed by Solomon.*

CHAP. II.

1 *David having given a Charge to Solomon, 3 of Religiousness, 5 of Joab, 7 of Barzillai, 8 of Shimei, 10 dieth. 12 Solomon succeedeth. 13 Adonijah moving Bath-sheba to sue unto Solomon for Abishag, is put to Death. 26 Abiathar having his Life given him, is deprived of the Priesthood. 28 Joab fleeing to the Horns of the Altar, is there slain. 35 Benaiah is put in Joab's room, and Zadok in Abiathar's. 36 Shimei confined to Jerusalem, by Occasion of going thence to Gath is put to Death.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW the Days of DAVID drew nigh, that he should DIE; and he charged Solomon his Son, saying,

2 I go the WAY of all the EARTH: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a MAN.

3 And Keep the CHARGE of the LORD thy GOD, to WALK in his WAYS, to KEEP his STATUTES, and his Commandments, and his Judgments, and his Testimonies, as it is written in the LAW of Moses, that thou mayest

L I I

PROSPER

442 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

PROSPER in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself :

4 That the **LORD** may continue his **WORD**, which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy **CHILDREN** take heed to their Way, to walk before me in Truth, with all their **HEART**, and with all their **SOUL**, there shall not fail thee (said he) **A MAN** on the **THRONE** of Israel.

10 So **David** slept with his **Fathers**, and was buried in the **City** of **David**.

11 And the **Days** that **David** reigned over **Israel**, were **FORTY YEARS** : **SEVEN** Years reigned he in **Hebron**, and **THIRTY** and **THREE** Years reigned he in **Jerusalem**.

12 Then sat **Solomon** upon the **Throne** of **David** his **Father**, and his **Kingdom** was established greatly.

C H A P. III.

1 *Solomon marrieth Pharaoh's Daughter.* 2 *High Places being in Use, Solomon sacrificeth at Gibeon.* 9 *Solomon, in the Choice which GOD gave him, preferring Wisdom, 12 obtaineth Wisdom, Riches, and Honour :* 16 *His Judgment between the two Harlots, maketh him renowned.*

Ver. 3 **A**ND **Solomon** LOVED the **LORD**, walking in the **STATUTES** of **David** his **Father** : only he sacrificed and burnt **Incense** in high **Places**.

4 And the **King** went to **Gibeon** to sacrifice there ; for that was the great high **Place**.

5 In **Gibeon** the **LORD** APPEARED to **Solomon** in a **Dream** by **Night** : and **GOD** said, Ask what I shall give thee.

6 And **Solomon** said, Thou hast shewed unto thy **Servant** **David** my **Father** great **MERCY**, according as he walked before thee in **TRUTH**, and in **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, and in **UPRIGHTNESS** of **HEART** with thee, and thou hast kept for him this great **Kindness**, that thou hast given him a **Son** to sit on his **Throne**, as it is this **Day**.

7 And now, **O LORD** my **GOD**, thou hast made thy **Servant** **King** instead of **David** my **Father** : and I am but a little **Child** : I know not how to go out or come in.

8 And thy **Servant** is in the midst of thy **People** which thou hast chosen, a great **People**, that cannot be numbred nor counted for multitude.

9 Give

KINGS and CHRONICLES 443

9 ^m Give therefore thy Ser- = *James* i. ; If any of you lack
 vant an UNDERSTANDING WISDOM, let him ask of God, that
 HEART, to judge thy Peo- giveth to all Men liberally, and up-
 ple, that I may discern be- braideth not, and it shall be given
 tween Good and Bad : for who is able to judge this thy so him.
 great a People?

10 And the Speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this Thing.

11 And GOD said unto him, Because thou hast asked this Thing, and hast not asked for thyself LONG LIFE, neither hast asked RICHES for thyself, nor hast asked the LIFE of thine Enemies, but hast asked for thyself UNDERSTANDING to discern Judgment.

12 Behold, I have done according to thy Words : Lo, I have given thee a WISE and an UNDERSTANDING HEART, so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

13 And I have also given thee that which thou hast NOT ASKED, both RICHES and HONOUR : so that there shall not be any among the Kings like unto thee, all thy Days.

14 And if thou wilt walk in my Ways, to KEEP my Statutes and my COMMANDMENTS, as thy Father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy Days.

15 And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a Dream : and he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ARK of the COVENANT of the LORD, and offered up Burnt-offerings, and offered Peace-offerings, and made a Feast to all his Servants.

16 Then came there two Women that were Harlots, unto the King, and stood before him.

17 And the one Woman said, O my LORD, I and this Woman dwell in one House, and I was delivered of a Child with her in the House.

18 And it came to pass the third Day after that I was delivered, that this Woman was delivered also : and we were together ; there was no Stranger with us in the House, save we two in the House.

19 And this Woman's Child died in the Night ; because she overlaid it.

20 And she arose at Midnight, and took my Son from beside me, while thine Handmaid slept, and laid it in her Bosom, and laid her dead Child in my Bosom.

21 And when I arose in the Morning to give my Child Suck,

444 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

Suck, behold, it was dead : but when I had considered it in the Morning, behold, it was not my Son, which I did bear.

22 And the other Woman said, Nay ; but the living is my Son, and the dead is thy Son : and this said, No ; but the dead is thy Son, and the living is my Son. Thus they spake before the King.

23 Then said the King, The one saith, This is my Son that liveth, and thy Son is the dead : and the other saith, Nay ; but thy Son is the dead, and my Son is the living.

24 And the King said, Bring me a Sword. And they brought a Sword before the King.

25 And the King said, Divide the living Child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.

26 Then spake the Woman whose the living Child was, unto the King, (for her Bowels yearned upon her Son) and she said, O my Lord, give her the living Child, and in no wise slay it : but the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it.

27 Then the King answered and said, Give her the living Child, and in no wise slay it : she is the Mother thereof :

28 And all Israel heard of the Judgment which the King had judged, and they feared the King : for they saw that the Wisdom of God was in him, to do Judgment,

C H A P. IV.

1 *Solomon's Princes : 7 His twelve Officers : 20, 24 The Peace and Largeness of his Kingdom : 29 His Wisdom.*

Ver. 20 **J**UDAH and Israel were many, as the Sand which is by the Sea in multitude, eating and drinking, and making merry.

21 * And SOLOMON reigned over all KINGDOMS, from the RIVER unto the Land of the Philistines, and unto the Border of EGYPT : they brought Presents, and served Solomon all the Days of his Life.

22 And Solomon's Provision for one Day, was thirty Measures of fine Flour, and threescore Measures of Meal,

23 Ten fat Oxen, and twenty Oxen out of the Pastures, and an hundred Sheep, beside Harts, and Roc-bucks, and Fallow-deer, and fatted Fowl.

* *Herein was literally fulfilled the Promise made to the Israelites by Moses,*

24 *For*

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 445

24 For he had Dominion over all the Region on this side the River, from Tiphah even to Azzah, over all the Kings on this side the River : and he had PEACE on all sides round about him.

25 And Judah and Israel DWELT safely, every Man UNDER his Vine, and under his Fig-tree, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, all the Days of Solomon.

26 And Solomon had forty thousand Stalls of Horses for his Chariots, and twelve thousand Horsemen.

27 And those Officers provided Victual for King Solomon, and for all that came unto King Solomon's Table, every Man in his Month : they lacked nothing.

29 And God gave Solomon WISDOM and Understanding, exceeding much, and Largeness of Heart, even as the Sand that is on the Sea-shore.

30 And Solomon's WISDOM excelled the Wisdom of all the Children of the EAST-COUNTRY, and all the Wisdom of Egypt.

31 For he was WISER than all MEN ; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the Sons of Mahol : and his FAME was in all NATIONS round about.

32 And he spake three thousand PROVERBS : and his SONGS were a thousand and five.

33 And he spake of Trees, from the Cedar-tree that is in Lebanon, even unto the Hyssop that springeth out of the Wall : He spake also of Beasts, and of Fowl, and of creeping Things, and of Fishes.

34 And there came of all PEOPLE to hear the WISDOM of Solomon, from all KINGS of the Earth, which had heard of his Wisdom.

C H A P. V.

- 1 *Hiram sending to congratulate Solomon, is certified of his Purpose to build the Temple, and desired to furnish him with Timber thereto. 7 Hiram blessing God for Solomon, and requesting Food for his Family, furnisheth him with Trees. 13 The Number of Solomon's Workmen and Labourers.*



The

446 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*




The Fifth Period :

**From the Time of finishing Solomon's Temple,
to the Israelites Captivity to Babylon, contain-
ing about the Space of 416 Years.**

C H A P. VI.

*1 The building of Solomon's Temple. 5 The Chambers thereof.
11 God's Promise unto it. 15 The Cieling and adorning of
it. 23 The Cherubims. 31 The Doors. 36 The Court.
37 The Time of building of it.*

Ver. 1  **ND** it came to pass in the four hundred
and fourscore Year after the Children of
Israel were come out of the Land of E-
gypt, in the fourth Year of Solomon's
Reign over Israel, in the Month Zif,
which is the second Month, that he began to build the House
of the LORD.

2 And the House which King Solomon built for the
LORD, the Length thereof was threescore Cubits, and the
Breadth thereof twenty Cubits, and the Height thereof thirty
Cubits.

3 And the Porch before the Temple of the House, twenty
Cubits was the Length thereof, according to the Breadth of
of the House; and ten Cubits was the Breadth thereof be-
fore the House.

4 And for the House he made Windows of narrow Lights,

5 And against the Wall of the House he built Chambers
round about, against the Walls of the House round about,
both of the Temple, and of the Oracle: and he made
Chambers round about.

6 The nethermost Chamber was five Cubits broad, and
the middle was six Cubits broad, and the third was seven
Cubits

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 447

Cubits broad : for without in the Wall of the House he made narrowed Rests round about, that the Beams should not be fastened in the Walls of the House.

7 And the House when it was in building, was built of Stone, made ready before it was brought thither : so that there was neither Hammer, nor Ax, nor any Tool of Iron heard in the House while it was in building.

8 The Door for the middle Chamber was in the Right side of the House : and they went up with winding Stairs into the middle Chamber, and out of the middle into the third.

9 So he built the House and finished it ; and covered the House with Beams and Boards of Cedar.

10 And then he built Chambers against all the House, five Cubits high : and they rested on the House with Timber of Cedar.

11 And the Word of the LORD came to Solomon, saying,

12 Concerning this House which thou art in building, if thou wilt walk in my Statutes, and execute my Judgments, and keep all my Commandments to walk in them : then will I perform my Word with thee, which I spake unto David thy Father.

13 And I will DWELL among the Children of Israel, and will NOT FORSAKE my People Israel.

14 So Solomon built the House, and finished it.

C H A P. VII.

1 *The building of Solomon's House ; 2 of the House of Lebanon ; 6 of the Porch of Pillars ; 7 of the Porch of Judgment ; 8 of the House of Pharaoh's Daughter. 13 Hiram's Work of the two Pillars ; 23 of the molten Sea ; 27 of the ten Bases ; 38 of the ten Lavers ; 40 and all the Vessels.*

C H A P. VIII.

1 *The Dedication of the Temple. 12, 54 Solomon's Blessing : 22 His Prayer : 62 His Sacrifice of Peace-offerings.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN Solomon assembled the Elders of Israel, and all the Heads of the Tribes, the chief of the Fathers of the Children of Israel, unto King Solomon in Jeru-

448 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

Jerusalem, that they might bring up the **ARK** of the **COVENANT** of the **LORD**, out of the City of David, which is **ZION**.

2 And all the Men of Israel assembled themselves unto King Solomon, at the Feast in the Month Ethanim, which is the seventh Month.

3 And all the Elders of Israel came, and the Priests took up the **ARK**.

4 And they brought up the **ARK** of the **LORD**, and the Tabernacle of the Congregation, and all the holy Vessels that were in the Tabernacle.

5 And King Solomon, and all the Congregation of Israel, that were assembled unto him, were with him before the **ARK**, sacrificing Sheep, and Oxen, that could not be told nor numbered for multitude.

6 And the Priests brought in the **ARK** of the **COVENANT** of the **LORD** unto his Place, into the **ORACLE** of the House to the most **HOLY PLACE**, even under the **WINGS** of the **CHERUBIMS**.

7 For the Cherubims spread forth their two **Wings** over the Place of the **ARK**, and the Cherubims covered the **ARK**, and the Staves thereof above.

9 There was nothing in the **ARK** save the two **TABLES** of **STONE** which **MOSES** put there at Horeb, when the **LORD** made a **COVENANT** with the Children of Israel, when they came out of the Land of Egypt.

10 And it came to pass when the Priests were come out of the Holy Place, that the **CLOUD** filled the House of the **LORD**.

11 So that the Priests could not stand to minister, because of the **CLOUD**; for the **GLORY** of the **LORD** had filled the House of the **LORD**.

12 Then spake Solomon, The **LORD** said that he would dwell in the thick Darknes.

13 I have surely built thee an House to dwell in, a settled Place for thee to abide in for ever.

14 And the King turned his Face about, and blessed all the Congregation of Israel : (and all the Congregation of Israel stood)

15 And he said, Blessed be the **LORD** **GOD** of Israel, which spake with his Mouth unto David my Father, and hath with his Hand **FULFILLED** it, saying,

16 Since the Day that I brought forth my People Israel
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KINGS and CHRONICLES. 449

out of Egypt, I chose no City out of all the Tribes of Israel to build an House that my Name might be therein; but I chose David to be over my People Israel.

17 And it was in the Heart of David my Father to build an House for the Name of the LORD GOD of Israel.

18 And the LORD said unto David my Father, Whereas it was in thine HEART to build an House unto my Name, thou didst WELL that it was in thine HEART.

19 Nevertheless, thou shalt not build the House, but thy Son that shall come forth out of thy Loins, he shall build the House unto my Name.

20 And the LORD hath performed his Word that he spake, and I am risen up in the room of David my Father, and sit on the Throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and have built an House for the Name of the LORD GOD of Israel.

21 And I have set there a Place for the ARK, wherein is the COVENANT of the LORD, which he made with our Fathers, when he brought them out of the Land of Egypt.

22 And SOLOMON stood before the ALTAR of the LORD, in the Presence of all the Congregation of Israel, and spread forth his HANDS towards HEAVEN:

23 And he said, LORD GOD of Israel, there is no GOD like thee, in Heaven above, or on Earth beneath, who keepeth COVENANT and MERCY with thy Servants, that WALK before thee with all their HEART.

24 Who hast kept with thy Servant David my Father that thou PROMISEDST him: thou spakest also with thy Mouth, and hast FULFILLED it with thine Hand, as it is this Day.

25 Therefore now, LORD GOD of Israel, keep with thy Servant David my Father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a Man in my sight to sit on the Throne of Israel; so that thy Children take heed to their Way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me:

26 And now, O GOD of ISRAEL, let thy Word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy Servant David my Father.

27 ^a But will GOD indeed dwell on the EARTH? behold, the HEAVEN and HEAVEN of HEAVENS cannot contain

^a Isa. lxvi. 1 Thus saith the LORD, The HEAVEN is my THRONE, and the EARTH is my FOOTSTOOL, where is the House that ye build unto me? and where is the Place of my Rest?

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450 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

thee, how much less this House that I have builded?

28 Yet have thou Respect unto the PRAYER of thy Servant and to his Supplication, O LORD my GOD, to hearken unto the Cry, and to the PRAYER, which thy Servant prayeth before thee To-day:

29 That thine Eyes may be open toward this House Night and Day, even toward the Place of which thou hast said, My NAME shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the PRAYER which thy Servant shall make TOWARDS this PLACE.

30 And hearken thou to the Supplication of thy Servant, and of thy People Israel, when they shall pray towards this Place: and hear thou in Heaven thy Dwelling-place, and when thou hearest, FORGIVE.

31 If any Man trespass against his Neighbour, and an Oath be laid upon him to cause him to swear, and the Oath come before thine Altar in this House:

32 Then hear thou in Heaven, and do, and judge thy Servants, CONDEMNING the WICKED, to bring his Way upon his Head, and JUSTIFYING the RIGHTEOUS, to give him according to his RIGHTEOUSNESS.

33 When thy People Israel be smitten down before the Enemy, because they have sinned against thee, and shall turn again to thee, and CONFESS thy Name, and PRAY, and make Supplication unto thee in this House:

34 Then hear thou in Heaven, and FORGIVE the Sin of thy People Israel, and bring them again unto the Land which thou gavest unto their Fathers.

35 When Heaven is SHUT UP, and there is no RAIN, because they have SINNED against thee; and if they PRAY towards

Psal. viii. 1 O LORD our God, how excellent is thy Name in all the Earth! who hast set thy Glory above the Heavens.

3 When I consider thy Heavens, the Work of thy Fingers, the Moon and the Stars which thou hast ordained;

4 What is Man that thou art mindful of him? and the Son of Man, that thou visitest him?

Yer. xliii. 24 Can any hide himself in secret Places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD: do not I fill Heaven and Earth? saith the LORD.

Mat. vii. 48 The most High dwelleth not in Temples made with Hands, as saith the Prophet,

49 HEAVEN is my Throne, and EARTH is my Footstool; what House will ye build me? saith the LORD, or what is the Place of my Rest?

50 Hath not my Hand made all these Things?

Isa. lvii. 15 Thus saith the LORD, and LOFTY ONE that inhabiteth ETERNITY, whose Name is HOLY, I dwell in the HIGH and HOLY Place; with HIM also that is of a CONTRITE and HUMBLE Spirit, to REVIVE the Spirit of the HUMBLE, and to REVIVE the Heart of the CONTRITE ONES.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 451

towards this Place, and CONFESS thy Name, and TURN from their SIN, when thou afflictest them.

36 Then HEAR thou in Heaven, and FORGIVE the SIN of thy Servants, and of the People of Israel, that thou teach them the GOOD WAY wherein they should WALK, and give RAIN upon thy Land which thou hast given to thy People for an Inheritance.

37 If there be in the Land Famine, if there be Pestilence, Blasting, Mildew, Locust, or if there be Caterpillers; if their Enemy besiege them in the Land of their Cities, whatsoever Plague, whatsoever Sickness there be;

38 What PRAYER and SUPPLICATION soever be made by any Man, or by all thy People Israel, which shall know every Man the PLAGUE of his own HEART; and spread forth his Hands towards this House:

39 Then hear thou in Heaven thy Dwelling-place; and FORGIVE, and do and give to every Man according to his Ways, whose Heart thou knowest; (for thou, even thou only KNOWEST the HEARTS of all the Children of Men)

40 That they may FEAR thee all the Days that they live, in the Land which thou gavest unto our Fathers.

41 Moreover, concerning a Stranger that is not of thy People Israel, but cometh out of a far Countrey, for thy Name's sake.

42 (For they shall hear of thy great Name, and of thy strong Hand, and of thy stretched-out Arm) when he shall come and pray towards this House:

43 Hear thou in Heaven thy Dwelling-place, and do according to all that the Stranger calleth to thee for: that all People of the Earth may KNOW thy NAME, to FEAR thee, as do thy People Israel, and that they may know that this House which I have builded, is called by thy Name.

44 If thy People go out to Battle against their Enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the LORD toward the City which thou hast chosen, and toward the House that I have built for thy Name:

45 Then hear thou in Heaven their Prayer and their Supplication, and maintain their Cause.

46 If they sin against thee, (for there is no Man that sinneth not) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the Enemy, so that they carry them away Captives, unto the Land of the Enemy, far or near;

47 Yet if they shall bethink themselves in the Land whi-

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452 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

ther they were carried Captives, and **REPENT**, and make Supplication unto thee in the Land of them that carried them Captives, saying, We have sinned, and have done perversely, we have committed Wickedness;

48 And so return unto thee with all their **HEART**, and with all their **SOUL**, in the Land of their Enemies which led them away Captive, and **PRAY** unto thee toward their Land, which thou gavest unto their Fathers, the City which thou hast chosen, and the House which I have built for thy Name.

49 Then hear thou their Prayer and their Supplication in Heaven thy Dwelling-place, and maintain their Cause.

50 And forgive thy People that have sinned against thee, and all their Transgressions wherein they have transgressed against thee, and give them Compassion before them who carried them Captive, that they may have Compassion on them :

51 For they be thy People and thine Inheritance, which thou broughtest forth out of Egypt, from the midst of the Furnace of Iron :

52 That thine Eyes may be open unto the **SUPPLICATION** of thy Servant, and unto the Supplication of thy People Israel, to hearken unto them in all that they call for unto thee.

53 For thou didst separate them from among all the People of the Earth, to be thine Inheritance, as thou spakest by the Hand of Moses thy Servant, when thou broughtest our Fathers out of Egypt, O **LORD GOD**.

54 And it was so, that when **SOLOMON** had made an end of praying all this Prayer and Supplication unto the **LORD**, he arose before the Altar of the **LORD**, from kneeling on his Knees, with his Hands spread up to Heaven.

55 And he stood and blessed all the Congregation of Israel with a loud Voice, saying,

56 Blessed be the **LORD**, that hath given **REST** unto his People Israel, according to all that he promised : there hath not **FAILED ONE WORD** of all his good **PROMISE**, which he promised by the Hand of Moses his Servant.

57 The **LORD** our **GOD** be with us, as he was with our Fathers : let him not leave us, nor forsake us :

58 That he may incline our Hearts unto him, to walk in all his Ways, and to keep his Commandments, and his Statutes, and his Judgments, which he commanded our Fathers.

59 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 453

59 And let these my Words, wherewith I have made Supplication before the LORD, be nigh unto the LORD our God Day and Night, that he maintain the Cause of his Servant, and the Cause of his People Israel at all Times, as the Matter shall require:

60 That all the People of the Earth may know that the LORD is GOD, and that there is none else.

61 Let your HEART therefore be PERFECT with the LORD your GOD, to walk in his Statutes, and to keep his Commandments, as at this Day.

62 And the King and all Israel with him, offered Sacrifice before the LORD.

63 And Solomon offered a Sacrifice of Peace-offerings, which he offered unto the LORD, two and twenty thousand Oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand Sheep: So the King and all the Children of Israel dedicated the House of the LORD.

II. CHRON. CHAP. VII.

1 GOD giving Testimony to Solomon's Prayer, the People worship him. 4 Solomon's Sacrifice. 12 Blessings promised.

Ver. 1 **N**OW when Solomon had made an end of praying, the FIRE came down from HEAVEN, and CONSUMED the Burnt-offering and the Sacrifices; and the GLORY of the LORD FILLED the HOUSE.

2 ° And the Priests could not enter into the House of the LORD, because the GLORY of the LORD had FILLED the LORD's HOUSE.

° *Rev. xv. 8* And the TEMPLE WAS FILLED with SMOKE from the GLORY of GOD, and from his POWER; and no Man was able to enter into the TEMPLE.

1 *Tim. vi. 15* Who is the blessed and only POTENTATE, the KING of Kings, and LORD of Lords;

16 Who only hath Immortality, dwelling in the LIGHT which no Man can approach unto, whom no Man hath seen, nor can see.

3 P And when all the Children of Israel saw how the FIRE came down, and the GLORY of the LORD upon the House, they BOWED themselves with their Faces to the Ground upon the Pavement, and WORSHIPED, and PRAISED the LORD,

P *Psal. cxlvi. 1* O give THANKS unto the LORD, for he is good, for his MERCY ENDURETH for EVER.

4 To him who alone doth great Wonders: for his Mercy endureth for ever.

5 To him that by Wisdom made the Heavens: for his Mercy endureth for ever.

6 To him that stretched out the Earth above the Waters: for his Mercy endureth for ever.

saying,

454 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

saying, For he is GOOD, for his MERCY ENDURETH for EVER.

4 Then the King and all the People offered Sacrifices before the LORD.

5 And King Solomon offered a Sacrifice of twenty and two thousand Oxen, and an hundred and twenty thousand Sheep: so the King and all the People dedicated the House of God.

6 And the Priests waited on their Offices: the Levites also with Instruments of Musick of the LORD, which David the King had made to praise the LORD, because his Mercy endureth for ever, when David praised by their Ministry: and the Priests sounded Trumpets before them, and all Israel stood.

7 Moreover, Solomon hallowed the Middle of the Court that was before the House of the LORD: for there he offered Burnt-offerings, and the Fat of the Peace-offerings, because the brasen Altar which Solomon had made, was not able to receive the Burnt-offerings, and the Meat-offerings, and the Fat.

8 Also at the same Time Solomon kept the Feast seven Days, and all Israel with him, a very great Congregation, from the entering in of Hamath, unto the River of Egypt.

9 And in the eighth Day they made a solemn Assembly: for they kept the Dedication of the Altar seven Days, and the Feast seven Days.

10 And on the three and twentieth Day of the seventh Month, he sent the People away into their Tents, glad and merry in heart for the Goodness that the LORD had shewed unto David, and to Solomon, and to Israel his People.

11 Thus Solomon finished the House of the LORD, and the King's House: and all that came into Solomon's Heart to make in the House of the LORD, and in his own House, he readily effected.

12 And the LORD appeared to Solomon by Night, and said unto him, I have HEARD thy PRAYER, and have chosen this Place to myself for an House of Sacrifice.

13 If I shut up Heaven that there be no RAIN, or if I command the Locusts to devour the Land, or if I send PESTILENCE among my People;

14 If my People which are called by my Name, shall HUMBLE themselves, and PRAY, and SEEK my FACE, and turn from their WICKED Ways: then will I HEAR from Heaven,

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 455

Heaven, and will FORGIVE their Sin, and will heal their Land.

15 Now mine EYES shall be open, and mine Ears attent unto the Prayer that is made in this Place.

16 For now have I chosen and sanctified this House, that my Name may be there for ever: and mine Eyes and mine Heart shall be there perpetually.

17 And as for thee, if thou wilt walk before me, as David thy Father walked, and do according to all that I have commanded thee, and shalt observe my Statutes and my Judgments:

18 Then will I stablish the Throne of thy Kingdom, according as I have covenanted with David thy Father, saying, There shall not FAIL thee a MAN to be RULER in Israel.

19 ^a But if ye turn away and FORSAKE my STATUTES and my COMMANDMENTS which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other Gods, and worship them:

20 Then will I pluck them up by the Roots out of my Land which I have given them; and this House which I have sanctified for my Name, will I cast out of my sight, and will make it to be a PROVERB, and a BY-WORD among all Nations.

21 And this House which is HIGH, shall be an ASTONISHMENT to every one that passeth by it; so that he shall say, Why hath the LORD done thus unto this Land, and unto this House?

22 And it shall be answered, Because they forsook the LORD GOD of their Fathers, which brought them forth out of the Land of Egypt, and laid hold on other Gods, and worshipped them, and served them: therefore hath he brought all this Evil upon them.

^a *Deut. xxviii. 15* But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the Voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his COMMANDMENTS and his Statutes which I command you this Day, that all these Curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

35 The LORD shall bring thee and thy King which thou shalt set over thee, unto a Nation which neither thou, nor thy Fathers have known; and there shalt thou serve other Gods, Wood and Stone.

37 And thou shalt become an Astonishment, a PROVERB, and a BY-WORD, among all Nations whither the LORD shall lead thee.

456 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

C H A P. VIII.

1 Solomon's Buildings. 7 The Gentiles which were left, Solomon made Tributaries; but the Israelites, Rulers. 11 Pharaoh's Daughter removeth to her House. 12 Solomon's yearly solemn Sacrifices: 14 He appointeth the Priests and Levites to their Places. 17 The Navy fetcheth Gold from Ophir.

Ver. 12 **T**HEN Solomon offered Burnt-offerings unto the LORD on the Altar of the LORD, which he had built before the Porch:

13 Even after a certain Rate every Day, offering according to the Commandment of Moses, on the Sabbaths, and on the New-moons, and on the solemn Feasts, three times in the Year, even in the Feast of unleavened Bread, and in the Feast of Weeks, and in the Feast of Tabernacles.

14 And he appointed, according to the Order of David his Father, the Courses of the Priests, to their Service, and the Levites to their Charges, to praise and minister before the Priests, as the Duty of every Day required: the Porters also by their Courses, at every Gate: for so had David the Man of GOD commanded.

15 And they departed not from the Commandment of the King unto the Priests and Levites, concerning any Matter, or concerning the Treasures.

16 Now all the Work of Solomon was prepared unto the Day of the Foundation of the House of the LORD, and until it was finished: so the House of the LORD was perfected.

17 Then went Solomon to Ezion-geber, and to Eloth, at the Sea-side in the Land of Edom.

18 And Hiram sent him by the Hands of his Servants, Ships, and Servants that had Knowledge of the Sea; and they went with the Servants of Solomon to Ophir, and took thence four hundred and fifty Talents of Gold, and brought them to King Solomon.

I. *KINGS.* C H A P. X.

1 The Queen of Sheba admireth the Wisdom of Solomon: 14 His Riches.

Ver.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 457

Ver. 1 **A**ND when the Queen of Sheba heard of the Fame of Solomon, concerning the Name of the LORD, she came to prove him with hard Questions.

2 And she came to Jerusalem, with a very great Train, with Camels that bare Spices, and very much Gold, and precious Stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her Heart.

3 And Solomon told her all her Questions: there was not any thing hid from the King, which he told her not.

4 And when the Queen of Sheba had seen all Solomon's Wisdom, and the House that he had built,

5 And the Meat of his Table, and the fitting of his Servants, and the Attendance of his Ministers, and their Apparel, and his Cup-bearers, and his Ascent by which he went up unto the House of the LORD: there was no more Spirit in her.

6 And she said to the King, It was a true Report that I heard in mine own Land, of thy Acts, and of thy Wisdom.

7 Howbeit, I believed not the Words until I came, and mine Eyes had seen it: and behold, the half was not told me: thy Wisdom and Prosperity exceedeth the Fame which I heard.

8 Happy are thy Men, happy are these thy Servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy Wisdom.

9 Blessed be the LORD thy God which delighted in thee, to set thee on the Throne of Israel; because the LORD loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee King to do Judgment and Justice.

10 And she gave the King an hundred and twenty Talents of Gold, and of Spices very great Store, and precious Stones: there came no more such abundance of Spices, as these which the Queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

11 And the Navy also of Hiram that brought Gold from Ophir, brought in from Ophir great plenty of Almug-trees, and precious Stones.

12 And the King made of the Almug-trees, Pillars for the House of the LORD, and for the King's House, Harps also and Psalteries for Singers: there came no such Almug-trees, nor were seen unto this Day.

13 And King Solomon gave unto the Queen of Sheba, all her Desire whatsoever she asked, besides that which So-

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458 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

lomon gave her of his royal Bounty : so she turned and went to her own Countrey.

C H A P. XI.

1 Solomon's Wives and Concubines : 4 In his old Age they draw him to Idolatry : 9 GOD threatneth him. 14 Solomon's Adversaries were Hadad, who was entertained in Egypt ; 23 Rezon, who reigned in Damascus ; 26 and Jeroboam, to whom Abijah prophesied. 41 Solomon's Ails, Reign, and Death : 43 Reboboam succeedeth him.

Ver. 1 **B**UT King Solomon loved many strange Women, (together with the Daughter of Pharaoh) Women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites :

2 OF the NATIONS concerning which the LORD said unto the Children of Israel, Ye shall not go into them, neither shall they come in unto you, for surely they will TURN away your HEART after their Gods : Solomon clave unto these in Love.

4 For it came to pass when Solomon was old, that his Wives turned away his Heart after other Gods : and his Heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the Heart of David his Father.

5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the Goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the Abomination of the Ammonites.

6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his Father.

1 Deut. vii. 3 Neither shalt thou make MARRIAGES with them, thy DAUGHTER thou shalt not give unto his SON, nor his DAUGHTER shalt thou take unto thy SON.

2 Eccles. vii. 25 I applied mine Heart to KNOW, and to SEARCH, and to SEEK OUT WISDOM, and the REASON of Things, and to know the WICKEDNESS of FOLLY, even of FOOLISHNESS and MADNESS.

26 And I find more BITTER than DEATH the WOMAN whose Heart is SNARES and NETS, and her HANDS as BANDS : whose PLEASURETH GOD shall ESCAPE from her, but the SINNER shall be TAKEN by her.

Prov. vii. 1 My SON, KEEP my WORDS, and LAY UP my COMMANDMENTS with thee.

7 I discerned among the YOUTHS, a young Man void of UNDERSTANDING,

8 Passing through the STREET, near her CORNER, and he went the way to her HOUSE :

10 And behold, there met him a WOMAN with the ATTIRE of an HARLOT, and subtil of Heart.

24 HEarken unto me now therefore, O ye CHILDREN, and ATTEND to the WORDS of my MOUTH,

25 Let not thine HEART DECLINE to her WAYS, go not ASTRAY in her PATHS.

** Solomon's penitential Confession.*

7 Then

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 459

7 Then did Solomon build ^{26 For she hath CAST DOWN many} an high Place for Chemosh ^{WOUNDED : yea, many strong Men} the Abomination of Moab, in ^{have been SLAIN by her.} the Hill that is before Jerusalem; and for Molech the Abomination of the Children of Ammon.

8 And likewise did he for all his strange Wives, which burnt Incense and sacrificed unto their Gods.

9 And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his Heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice.

10 And had commanded him concerning this Thing, that he should not go after other Gods : but he kept not that which the LORD commanded.

11 Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my Covenant and my Statutes which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the Kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy Servant.

12 Notwithstanding in thy Days I will not do it, for David thy Father's Sake : but I will rend it out of the Hand of thy Son.

13 Howbeit, I will not rend away all the Kingdom : but will give one Tribe to thy Son, for David my Servant's Sake, and for Jerusalem's Sake which I have chosen.

14 And the LORD stirred up an Adversary unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite; he was of the King's Seed in Edom.

15 For it came to pass when David was in Edom, and Joab the Captain of the Host was gone up to bury the Slain, after he had smitten every Male in Edom :

16 (For six Months did Joab remain there with all Israel until he had cut off every Male in Edom.)

17 That Hadad fled, he and certain Edomites of his Father's Servants with him, to go into Egypt; Hadad being yet a little Child.

18 And they arose out of Midian, and came to Paran, and they took Men with them out of Paran, and they came to Egypt unto Pharaoh King of Egypt, which gave him an House, and appointed him Victuals, and gave him Land.

19 And Hadad found great Favour in the sight of Pharaoh, so that he gave him to Wife the Sister of his own Wife, the Sister of Tahpenes the Queen.

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20 And

460 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

20 And the Sister of Tahpenes bare him Genubath his Son, whom Tahpenes weaned in Pharaoh's House : and Genubath was in Pharaoh's Household among the Sons of Pharaoh.

21 And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his Fathers, and that Joab the Captain of the Host was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to mine own Countrey.

22 Then Pharaoh said unto him, But what hast thou lacked with me, that behold, thou seekest to go to thine own Countrey ? And he answered, Nothing : howbeit let me go in any wise.

23 And God stirred him up another Adversary, Rezon the Son of Eliadah, which fled from his Lord Hadadezer, King of Zobah.

24 And he gathered Men unto him, and became Captain over a Band, when David slew them of Zobah : and they went to Damascus and dwelt therein, and reigned in Damascus.

25 And he was an Adversary unto Israel all the Days of Solomon, besides the Mischief that Hadad did : and he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria.

26 And Jeroboam the Son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda, Solomon's Servant, (whose Mother's Name was Zeruah, a Widow-woman) even he lift up his Hand against the King.

27 And this was the Cause that he lift up his Hand against the King : Solomon built Millo, and repaired the Breaches of the City of David his Father.

28 And the Man Jeroboam was a mighty Man of Valour : and Solomon seeing the young Man that he was industrious, he made him Ruler over all the Charge of the House of Joseph.

29 And it came to pass at the time when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the Prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him in the Way : and he had clad himself with a new Garment ; and they two were alone in the Field.

30 And Ahijah caught the new Garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve Pieces.

31 And he said to Jeroboam, Take thee ten Pieces : for thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I will rend the Kingdom out of the Hand of Solomon, and will give ten Tribes to thee :

32 (But

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 461

32 (But he shall have one Tribe for my Servant David's Sake, and for Jerusalem's Sake, the City which I have chosen out of all the Tribes of Israel)

33 Because that they have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the Goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the God of the Moabites, and Milcom the God of the Children of Ammon, and have not walked in my Ways, to do that which is right in mine Eyes, and to keep my Statutes and my Judgments, as did David his Father.

34 Howbeit, I will not take the whole Kingdom out of his Hand : but I will make him Prince all the Days of his Life, for David my Servant's Sake, whom I chose, because he kept my Commandments and my Statutes :

35 But I will take the Kingdom out of his Son's Hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten Tribes.

36 And unto his Son will I give one Tribe, that David my Servant may have a Light alway before me in Jerusalem, the City which I have chosen me to put my Name there.

37 And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy Soul desireth, and shalt be King over Israel.

38 And it shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my Ways, and do that is right in my sight, to keep my Statutes and my Commandments, as David my Servant did ; that I will be with thee, and build thee a sure House, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee.

39 And I will for this afflict the Seed of David, but not for ever.

40 Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam : and Jeroboam arose and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak King of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the Death of Solomon.

41 And the rest of the Acts of Solomon, and all that he did, and his Wisdom, are they not written in the Book of the Acts of Solomon ?

42 And the Time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel, was forty Years.

43 And Solomon slept with his Fathers, and was buried in the City of David his Father : and Rehoboam his Son reigned in his Stead.

KINGS and CHRONICLES,

C H A P. XII.

5 The Israelites assembled at Shechem to crown Rehoboam, by Jeroboam make a Suit of Relaxation unto him. 6 Rehoboam refusing the old Mens Counsel, by the Advice of young Men, answereth them roughly. 16 Ten Tribes revolting, kill Adoram, and make Rehoboam to flee. 21 Rehoboam raising an Army, is forbidden by Shemaiah. 25 Jeroboam strengtbneth himself by Cities, 26 and by the Idolatry of the two Calves.

Ver. 1 **A**ND Rehoboam went to Shechem: for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him King.

2 And it came to pass when Jeroboam the Son of Nebat, who was yet in Egypt, heard of it, (for he was fled from the presence of King Solomon, and Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt.)

3 That they sent and called him: and Jeroboam, and all the Congregation of Israel came, and spake unto Rehoboam, saying,

4 Thy Father made our Yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous Service of thy Father, and his heavy Yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee.

5 And he said unto them, Depart yet for three Days, then come again to me. And the People departed.

6 And King Rehoboam consulted with the old Men that stood before Solomon his Father, while he yet lived, and said, How do you advise, that I may answer this People?

7 And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a Servant unto this People this Day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good Words to them, then they will be thy Servants for ever.

8 But he forsook the Counsel of the old Men, which they had given him, and consulted with the young Men that were grown up with him, and which stood before him:

9 And he said unto them, What Counsel give ye, that we may answer this People, who have spoken to me, saying, Make the Yoke which thy Father did put upon us, lighter?

10 And the young Men that were grown up with him, spake unto him, saying, Thus shalt thou speak unto this People
People

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 463

People that spake unto thee, saying, Thy Father made our Yoke heavy, but make thou it lighter unto us; thus shalt thou say unto them, My Little Finger shall be thicker than my Father's Loins.

11 And now whereas my Father did lade you with a heavy Yoke, I will add to your Yoke: my Father hath chastised you with Whips, but I will chastise you with Scorpions.

12 So Jeroboam and all the People came to Rehoboam the third Day, as the King had appointed, saying, Come to me again the third Day.

13 And the King answered the People roughly, and forsook the old Mens Counsel that they gave him;

14 And spake to them after the Counsel of the young Men, saying, My Father made your Yoke heavy, and I will add to your Yoke; my Father also chastised you with Whips, but I will chastise you with Scorpions.

15 Wherefore the King hearkned not unto the People; for the Cause was from the LORD, that he might perform his Saying which the LORD spake by Ahijah the Shilonite unto Jeroboam the Son of Nebat.

16 So when all Israel saw that the King hearkned not unto them, the People answered the King, saying, What Portion have we in David? neither have we Inheritance in the Son of Jesse: to your Tents, O Israel: now see to thine own House, David. So Israel departed unto their Tents.

17 But as for the Children of Israel which dwelt in the Cities of Judah, Rehoboam reigned over them.

18 Then King Rehoboam sent Adoram who was over the Tribute; and all Israel stoned him with Stones, that he died: therefore King Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his Chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.

19 So Israel rebelled against the House of David unto this Day.

20 And it came to pass when all Israel heard that Jeroboam was come again, that they sent and called him unto the Congregation, and made him King over all Israel: there was none that followed the House of David, but the Tribe of Judah only.

21 And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the House of Judah, with the Tribe of Benjamin, an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen Men, which were Warriours to fight against the House of Israel,

464 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

to bring the Kingdom again to Rehoboam the Son of Solomon.

22 But the Word of God came unto Shemaiah the Man of God, saying,

23 Speak unto Rehoboam the Son of Solomon King of Judah, and unto all the House of Judah and Benjamin, and to the Remnant of the People, saying,

24 Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your Brethren, the Children of Israel: return every Man to his House, for this Thing is from me. They hearkned therefore to the Word of the LORD, and returned to depart, according to the Word of the LORD.

25 Then Jeroboam built Shechem in Mount Ephraim, and dwelt therein, and went out from thence, and built Peniel.

26 And Jeroboam said in his Heart, Now shall the Kingdom return to the House of David:

27 If this People go up to do sacrifice in the House of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the Heart of this People turn again unto their Lord, even unto Rehoboam King of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam King of Judah.

28 Whereupon the King took Counsel, and made two Calves of Gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy Gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the Land of Egypt.

29 And he set the one in Beth-el, and the other put he in Dan.

30 And this Thing became a Sin: for the People went to worship before the one, even unto Dan.

31 And he made an House of high Places, and made Priests of the lowest of the People, which were not of the Sons of Levi.

32 And Jeroboam ordained a Feast in the eighth Month, on the fifteenth Day of the Month, like unto the Feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the Altar, (so did he in Beth-el) sacrificing unto the Calves that he had made: and he placed in Beth-el the Priests of the high Places which he had made.

33 So he offered upon the Altar which he had made in Beth-el, the fifteenth Day of the eighth Month, even in the Month which he had devised of his own Heart: and ordained a Feast unto the Children of Israel, and he offered upon the Altar and burnt Incense.

II. *CHRON.*

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 465

II. C H R O N. C H A P. XII.

1 Rehoboam forsaking the LORD, is punished by Shishak : 5 He and the Princes repenting at the preaching of Shemaiah, are delivered from Destruction, but not from Spoil. 13 The Reign and Death of Rehoboam.

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass when Rehoboam had established the Kingdom, and had strengthened himself, he forsook the Law of the LORD, and all Israel with him.

I KINGS XIV.

22 And Judah did Evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked him to Jealousy with their Sins which they had committed, above all that their Fathers had done.

24 And there were also Sodomites in the Land, and they did according to all the Abominations of the Nations which the LORD cast out before the Children of Israel,

2 CHRON. XII.

2 And it came to pass, that in the fifth Year of King Rehoboam, Shishak King of Egypt came up against Jerusalem (because they had transgressed against the LORD)

3 With twelve hundred Chariots, and threescore thousand Horsemen : and the People were without Number that came with him out of Egypt ; the Lubims, the Sukkiims, and the Ethiopians.

4 And he took the fenced Cities which pertained to Judah, and came to Jerusalem.

5 Then came Shemaiah the Prophet to Rehoboam, and to the Princes of Judah, that were gathered together to Jerusalem because of Shishak, and said unto them, Thus saith the LORD, Ye have forsaken me, and therefore have I also left you in the Hand of Shishak.

6 Whereupon the Princes of Israel, and the King humbled themselves, and they said, The LORD is righteous,

7 And when the LORD saw that they humbled themselves, the Word of the LORD came to Shemaiah, saying, They have humbled themselves, therefore I will not destroy them, but I will grant them some Deliverance, and my Wrath shall not be poured out upon Jerusalem by the Hand of Shishak.

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466 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

8 Nevertheless, they shall be his Servants; that they may know my Service, and the Service of the Kingdoms of the Countries.

9 So Shishak King of Egypt came up against Jerusalem, and took away the Treasures of the House of the LORD, and the Treasures of the King's House, he took all: he carried away also the Shields of Gold which Solomon had made.

10 Instead of which, King Rehoboam made Shields of Brass, and committed them to the Hands of the chief of the Guard that kept the Entrance of the King's House.

11 And when the King entred into the House of the LORD, the Guard came and set them, and brought them again into the Guard-chamber.

12 And when he humbled himself, the Wrath of the LORD turned from him, that he would not destroy him altogether: and also in Judah Things went well.

13 So King Rehoboam strengthened himself in Jerusalem, and reigned: for Rehoboam was one and forty Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen Years in Jerusalem, the City which the LORD had chosen out of all the Tribes of Israel, to put his Name there: and his Mother's Name was Naamah, an Ammonitess.

14 And he did Evil, because he prepared not his Heart to seek the LORD.

15 Now the Acts of Rehoboam, first and last, are they not written in the Book of Shemaiah the Prophet, and of Iddo the Seer, concerning Genealogies? And there were Wars between Rehoboam and Jeroboam continually.

16 And Rehoboam slept with his Fathers, and was buried in the City of David; and Abijah his Son reigned in his stead.

I. KINGS. CHAP. XIII.

1 Jeroboam's Hand withereth, 6 and at the Prayer of the Prophet is restored. 23 The disobedient Prophet slain by a Lion. 33 Jeroboam's Obstinacy.

Ver. 1 **A**ND behold, there came a Man of God out of Judah, by the Word of the LORD, unto Beth-el: and Jeroboam stood by the Altar to burn Incense.

2 And he cried against the Altar in the Word of the LORD,
and

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 467

and said, O Altar, Altar, thus saith the LORD, Behold, a Child shall be born unto the House of DAVID, Josiah by Name, and upon thee shall he offer the Priests of the High-places that burn Incense upon thee, and Mens Bones shall be burnt upon thee.

3 And he gave a Sign the same Day, saying, This is the Sign which the LORD hath spoken; Behold, the Altar shall be rent, and the Ashes that are upon it shall be poured out.

4 And it came to pass when King Jeroboam heard the Saying of the Man of GOD, which had cried against the Altar in Beth-el, that he put forth his Hand from the Altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his Hand which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him.

5 The Altar also was rent, and the Ashes poured out from the Altar, according to the Sign which the Man of GOD had given by the Word of the LORD.

6 And the King answered and said unto the Man of GOD, Intreat now the Face of the LORD thy GOD, and pray for me, that my Hand may be restored me again. And the Man of GOD besought the LORD, and the King's Hand was restored him again, and became as it was before.

7 And the King said unto the Man of GOD, Come home with me, and refresh thyself, and I will give thee a Reward.

8 And the Man of GOD said unto the King, If thou wilt give me half thine House, I will not go in with thee; neither will I eat Bread nor drink Water in this Place:

9 For so was it charged me by the Word of the LORD, saying, Eat no Bread, nor drink Water, nor turn again by the same Way that thou camest.

10 So he went another Way, and returned not by the Way that he came to Beth-el.

11 Now there dwelt an old Prophet in Beth-el, and his Sons came and told him all the Works that the Man of GOD had done that Day in Beth-el: the Words which he had spoken unto the King, them they told also to their Father.

12 And their Father said unto them, What Way went he? for his Sons had seen what Way the Man of GOD went, which came from Judah.

13 And he said unto his Sons, Saddle me the As. So they saddled him the As, and he rode thereon;

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14 And

468 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

14 And went after the Man of God, and found him sitting under an Oak; and he said unto him, Art thou the Man of God, that camest from Judah? And he said, I am.

15 Then he said unto him, Come home with me, and eat Bread.

16 And he said, I may not return with thee, nor go in with thee: neither will I eat Bread, nor drink Water with thee in this Place.

17 For it was said to me by the Word of the LORD, Thou shalt eat no Bread, nor drink Water there, nor turn again to go by the Way that thou camest.

18 He said unto him, I am a Prophet also as thou art, and an Angel spake unto me by the Word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine House, that he may eat Bread, and drink Water. But he lied unto him.

19 So he went back with him, and did eat Bread in his House, and drank Water.

20 And it came to pass, as they sat at the Table, that the Word of the LORD came unto the Prophet that brought him back:

21 And he cried unto the Man of GOD that came from Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast disobeyed the Mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the Commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee,

22 But camest back, and hast eaten Bread, and drunk Water in the Place of the which the LORD did say to thee, Eat no Bread, and drink no Water; thy Carcase shall not come unto the Sepulchre of thy Fathers.

23 And it came to pass, after he had eaten Bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the Ases, to wit, for the Prophet whom he had brought back.

24 And when he was gone, a Lion met him by the Way, and slew him: and his Carcase was cast in the Way, and the Ases stood by it, the Lion also stood by the Carcase.

25 And behold, Men passed by, and saw the Carcase cast in the Way, and the Lion standing by the Carcase: and they came and told it in the City where the old Prophet dwelt.

26 And when the Prophet that brought him back from the Way, heard thereof, he said, It is the Man of GOD, who was disobedient unto the Word of the LORD: therefore

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 469

fore the LORD hath delivered him unto the Lion, which hath torn him, and slain him, according to the Word of the LORD, which he spake unto him.

27 And he spake to his Sons, saying, Saddle me the Ases. And they saddled him.

28 And he went and found his Carcase cast in the Way, and the Ases and the Lion standing by the Carcase : the Lion had not eaten the Carcase, nor torn the Ases.

29 And the Prophet took up the Carcase of the Man of God, and laid it upon the Ases, and brought it back : and the old Prophet came to the City, to mourn, and to bury him.

30 And he laid his Carcase in his own Grave, and they mourned over him, saying, Alas, my Brother.

31 And it came to pass after he had buried him, that he spake to his Sons, saying, When I am dead, then bury me in the Sepulchre wherein the Man of God is buried, lay my Bones beside his Bones.

32 For the Saying, which he cried by the Word of the LORD against the Altar in Beth-el, and against all the Houses of the high Places which are in the Cities of Samaria, shall surely come to pass.

33 After this Thing, Jeroboam returned not from his evil Way, but made again of the lowest of the People, Priests of the high Places : whosoever would, he consecrated him, and he became one of the Priests of the high Places.

34 And this Thing became SIN unto the House of Jeroboam, even to CUT it OFF, and to DESTROY it from off the Face of the Earth.

C H A P. XIV.

1 Abijah being sick, Jeroboam sendeth his Wife disguised, with Presents to the Prophet Abijah at Shiloh. 5 Abijah forewarned, denounceth God's Judgment. 17 Abijah dieth, and is buried. 19 Nadab succeedeth Jeroboam. 21 Rehoboam's wicked Reign. 25 Shishak spoileth Jerusalem. 29 Abijah succeedeth Rehoboam.

Ver. 1 **A**T that Time Abijah the Son of Jeroboam fell sick.
2 And Jeroboam said to his Wife, Arise, I pray thee, and disguise thyself, that thou be not known to be the Wife of Jeroboam : and get thee to Shiloh ; behold, there

470 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

there is Ahijah the Prophet, which told me that I should be King over this People.

3 And take with thee ten Loaves, and Cracknels, and a Cruse of Honey, and go to him : he shall tell thee what shall become of the Child.

4 And Jeroboam's Wife did so, and arose, and went to Shiloh, and came to the House of Ahijah : but Ahijah could not see, for his Eyes were set by reason of his Age.

5 And the LORD said unto Ahijah, Behold the Wife of Jeroboam cometh to ask a Thing of thee for her Son, for he is sick : thus and thus shalt thou say unto her : for it shall be when she cometh in, that she shall feign herself to be another Woman.

6 And it was so when Ahijah heard the Sound of her Feet, as she came in at the Door, that he said, Come in thou Wife of Jeroboam, why feignest thou thyself to be another? for I am sent to thee with heavy Tidings.

7 Go, tell Jeroboam, Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, Forasmuch as I exalted thee from among the People, and made thee Prince over my People Israel,

8 And rent the Kingdom away from the House of David, and gave it thee; and yet thou hast not been as my Servant David, who kept my Commandments, and who followed me with all his Heart, to do that only which was right in mine Eyes.

9 But hast done Evil above all that were before thee : for thou hast gone and made thee other Gods, and molten Images, to provoke me to Anger, and hast cast me behind thy Back :

10 Therefore behold, I will bring Evil upon the House of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam him that pisseth against the Wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, and will take away the Remnant of the House of Jeroboam, as a Man taketh away Dung, till it be all gone.

11 Him that dieth of Jeroboam in the City shall the Dogs eat : and him that dieth in the Field shall the Fowls of the Air eat : for the LORD hath spoken it.

12 Arise thou therefore, get thee to thine own House : and when thy Feet enter into the City, the Child shall die.

13 And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him : for he only of Jeroboam shall come to the Grave, because in him there is found some good Thing toward the LORD GOD of Israel, in the House of Jeroboam.

14 Moreover

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 471

14 Moreover the LORD shall raise him up a King over Israel, who shall cut off the House of Jeroboam that Day : but what? even now.

15 For the LORD shall smite Israel, as a Reed is shaken in the Water, and he shall root up Israel out of this good Land, which he gave to their Fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the River, because they have made their Groves, provoking the LORD to Anger.

16 And he shall give Israel up, because of the Sins of Jeroboam who did sin, and who made Israel to sin.

17 And Jeroboam's Wife arose, and departed, and came to Tirzah : and when she came to the Threshold of the Door, the Child died.

18 And they buried him, and all Israel mourned for him, according to the Word of the LORD which he spake by the Hand of his Servant Ahijah the Prophet.

19 And the rest of the Acts of Jeroboam, how he warred, and how he reigned, behold, they are written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel.

20 And the Days which Jeroboam reigned were two and twenty Years : and he slept with his Fathers, and Nadab his Son reigned in his stead.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XIII.

1 *Abijah succeeding, maketh War against Jeroboam : 4 He declareth the Right of his Cause : 13 Trusting in God he overcometh him. 21 The Wives and Children of Abijah.*

Ver. 1 NOW in the eighteenth Year of King Jeroboam, began Abijah to reign over Judah.

2 He reigned three Years in Jerusalem : (his Mother's Name also was Micaiah the Daughter of Uriel of Gibeah) and there was War between Abijah and Jeroboam.

3 And Abijah set the Battle in array, with an Army of valiant Men of War, even four hundred thousand chosen Men : Jeroboam also set the Battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen Men, being mighty Men of Valour.

4 And Abijah stood up upon Mount Zemaraim, which is in Mount Ephraim, and said, Hear me thou Jeroboam, and all Israel.

5 Ought you not to know, that the LORD God of Israel

472 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

rael gave the Kingdom over Israel to David for ever, even to him and to his Sons by a Covenant of Salt?

6 Yet Jeroboam the Son of Nebat, the Servant of Solomon the Son of David, is risen up, and hath rebelled against his Lord.

7 And there are gathered unto him vain Men the Children of Belial, and have strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the Son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and tender-hearted, and could not withstand them.

8 * And now ye think to withstand the Kingdom of the LORD, in the Hand of the Sons of David; and ye be a great Multitude, and there are with you GOLDEN CALVES, which Jeroboam MADE you for Gods.

* *Hef. viii. 6* For from Israel was it also, the Workman MADE it; therefore it is not God, but the CALF of Samaria shall be broken in pieces.

9 Have ye not cast out the Priests of the LORD the Sons of Aaron, and the Levites, and have made you Priests after the manner of the Nations of other Lands? so that whosoever cometh to consecrate himself with a young Bullock and seven Rams, the same may be a Priest of them that are no Gods.

10 But as for us, the LORD is our God, and we have NOT FORSAKEN him; and the Priests which minister unto the LORD, are the Sons of Aaron, and the Levites wait upon their Business.

11 And they burn unto the LORD every Morning, and every Evening, Burnt-sacrifices and sweet Incense: the Shew-bread also set they in order upon the pure Table, and the Candlestick of Gold with the Lamps thereof, to burn every Evening: for we keep the Charge of the LORD our God; but ye have forsaken him.

12 And behold, GOD himself is with us for our Captain, and his Priests with sounding Trumpets to cry Alarm against you: O Children of Israel, fight ye not against the LORD GOD of your Fathers, for you shall not prosper.

13 But Jeroboam caused an Ambushment to come about behind them: so they were before Judah, and the Ambushment was behind them.

14 * And when Judah LOOKED back, behold, the Battle was before and behind: and they cried unto the LORD, and the Priests sounded with the Trumpets.

* *Psal. xxxiii. 13* The LORD LOOKETH from Heaven: he BEHOLDETH all the Sons of Men.

14 From the Place of his Habitation he LOOKETH upon all the Inhabitants of the Earth.

15 Then

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 473

15 Then the Men of Judah gave a Shout : and as the Men of Judah shouted, it came to pass, that God smote Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah.

16 And the Children of Israel fled before Judah : and God delivered them into their Hand.

17 And Abijah and his People slew them with a great Slaughter : so there fell down slain of Israel, five hundred thousand chosen Men.

18 Thus the Children of Israel were brought under at that Time, and the Children of Judah prevailed, because they RELIED upon the LORD GOD of their Fathers.

19 And Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and took Cities from him, Beth-el with the Towns thereof, and Jeshanah with the Towns thereof, and Ephraim with the Towns thereof.

20 Neither did Jeroboam recover Strength again in the Days of Abijah : and the LORD struck him, and he died.

21 But Abijah waxed mighty, and married fourteen Wives, and begat twenty and two Sons, and sixteen Daughters.

15 He fashioneth their Hearts alike : he considereth all their Works.

16 There is no King saved by the Multitude of an Host : a mighty Man is not delivered by much Strength.

17 An Horse is a vain Thing for Safety : neither shall he deliver any by his great Strength.

18 Behold, the EYE of the LORD is upon them that fear him : upon them that hope in his Mercy.

19 TO DELIVER their Soul from Death, and to KEEP them ALIVE in Famine.

Psal. xlv. 6 I will not TRUST in my Bow, neither shall my SWORD save me.

7 But thou hast SAVED us from our Enemies, and hast put them to Shame that hated us.

I KINGS XV.

3 And he walked in all the Sins of his Father, which he had done before him : and his Heart was not perfect with the LORD his GOD, as the Heart of David his Father.

4 Nevertheless, for David's Sake did the LORD his GOD give him a Lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his Son after him, and to establish Jerusalem :

5 Because David did that which was right in the Eyes of the LORD, and turned not aside from any thing that he commanded him all the Days of his Life, save only in the Matter of Uriah the Hittite.

7 Now the rest of the Acts of Abijah, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah ? And there was War between Abijah and Jeroboam.

474 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

8 And Abijam slept with his Fathers, and they buried him in the City of David : And Asa his Son reigned in his stead.

25 And NADAB the Son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second Year of ASA King of Judah, and reigned over Israel two Years.

26 And he did Evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the Way of his Father, and in his Sin wherewith he made Israel to sin.

27 And BAASHA the Son of Ahijah of the House of Issachar, conspired against him ; and Baasha smote him at Gibbethon which belongeth to the Philistines.

28 In the third Year of ASA King of Judah, did Baasha slay him, and reigned in his stead.

29 And he smote all the House of Jeroboam, he left not to Jeroboam any that breathed, according unto the Saying of the LORD, which he spake by his Servant AHIJAH :

30 Because of the Sins of Jeroboam which he sinned, and which he made Israel to sin, by his Provocation wherewith he provoked the LORD GOD of Israel to Anger.

33 In the third Year of Asa King of Judah, began Baasha to reign over all Israel in Tirzah, twenty and four Years.

34 And he did Evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the Way of Jeroboam, and in his Sin wherewith he made Israel to sin.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XV.

1 *Asa, with Judah and many of Israel, moved by the Prophecy of Azariah the Son of Oded, make a solemn Covenant with GOD : 16 He putteth down Maachab his Mother for her Idolatry : 18 He bringeth dedicate Things into the House of GOD, and enjoyeth a long Peace.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the SPIRIT of GOD came upon AZARIAH the Son of Oded.

2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin, The LORD is WITH YOU, while ye be WITH HIM ; and if ye SEEK him, he will be FOUND of you ; but if ye FORSAKE him, he will FORSAKE you.

3 Now for a long Season Israel hath been without the true GOD, and without a teaching Priest, and without Law.

4 But

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 475

4 But when they in their Trouble did turn unto the **LORD GOD** of Israel, and **SOUGHT** him, he was **FOUND** of them.

5 And in those Times there was no **PEACE** to him that went out, nor to him that came in, but great **VEXATIONS** were upon all the Inhabitants of the Countries.

6 And Nation was destroyed of Nation, and City of City; for **GOD** did **VEX** them with all **ADVERSITY**.

7 Be ye **STRONG** therefore, let not your Hands be **WEAK**: for your **WORK** SHALL BE **REWARDED**.

8 And when Asa heard these Words, and the Prophecy of Oded the Prophet, he took **COURAGE**, and put away the abominable **IDOLS** out of all the Land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the Cities which he had taken from Mount Ephraim, and renewed the Altar of the **LORD**, that was before the Porch of the **LORD**.

9 And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and the Strangers with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of Simeon: (for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they saw that the **LORD** his **GOD** was with him.)

10 So they gathered themselves together at Jerusalem in the third Month, in the fifteenth Year of the Reign of Asa.

11 And they offered unto the **LORD** the same time, of the Spoil which they had brought, seven hundred Oxen, and seven thousand Sheep.

12 And they entred into a **COVENANT** to **SEEK** the **LORD GOD** of their Fathers, with all their **HEART**, and with all their **SOUL**;

13 That whosoever would not **SEEK** the **LORD GOD** of Israel, should be put to Death, whether small or great, whether Man or Woman.

14 And they **SWARE** unto the **LORD** with a loud Voice, and with Shouting, and with Trumpets, and with Cornets.

15 And all Judah rejoiced at the Oath: for they had **SWORN** with all their **HEART**, and **SOUGHT** him with their whole **DESIRE**, and he was **FOUND** of them: and the **LORD** gave them **REST** round about.

16 And also concerning Maachah the Mother of Asa the King, he removed her from being Queen, because she had made an Idol in a Grove: and Asa cut down her Idol, and stamped it, and burnt it at the Brook Kidron.

2 KINGS XV.

12 And he took away the **SODOMITES** out of the Land, and removed all the Idols that his Father had made.

476 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

2 CHRON. XV.

17 But the high Places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless, the Heart of Asa was perfect all his Days.

18 And he brought into the House of God the Things that his Father had dedicated, and that he himself had dedicated, Silver, and Gold, and Vessels.

19 And there was no more War unto the five and thirtieth Year of the Reign of Asa.

2 CHRON. XIV.

8 And Asa had an Army of Men that bare Targets, and Spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand, and out of Benjamin, that bare Shields and drew Bows, two hundred and fourscore thousand: all these were mighty Men of Valour.

9 And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian, with an Host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred Chariots, and came unto Marefbah.

10 Then Asa went out against him, and they set the Battle in Array in the Valley of Zephathah at Marefbah.

11 " And Asa CRIED unto the LORD his GOD, and said, LORD, it is NOTHING with thee to HELP, whether with many, or with them that have NO POWER: HELP us, O LORD our GOD, for we REST on thee, and in thy NAME we go against this multitude: O LORD, thou art our GOD, let not MAN PREVAIL against THEE.

" *Psal. xxxiii* 13 The LORD looketh from HEAVEN, he BEHOLDETH all the SONS of MEN.

14 From the Place of his Habitation he LOOKETH upon all the INHABITANTS of the EARTH.

15 He FASHIONETH their HEARTS alike: he considereth all their Works.

16 There is NO KING SAVED by the MULTITUDE of an Host, a MIGHTY MAN is NOT DELIVERED by MUCH STRENGTH.

18 Behold, the EYE of the LORD is upon them that FEAR him, upon them that HOPE in his MERCY.

12 So the LORD smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah, and the Ethiopians fled.

13 And Asa and the People that were with him pursued them unto Gerar, and the Ethiopians were overthrown, that they could not recover themselves, for they were destroyed before the LORD, and before his Host; and they carried away very much Spoil.

14 And they smote all the Cities round about Gerar, for the Fear of the LORD came upon them: and they spoiled all the Cities, for there was exceeding much Spoil in them.

1 KINGS

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 477

1 KINGS XV.

16 And there was War between Aſa and Baasha King of Israel all their Days.

17 And Baasha King of Israel went up againſt Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not ſuffer any to go out or come in to Aſa King of Judah.

18 Then Aſa took all the Silver and the Gold that were left in the Treasures of the Houſe of the LORD, and the Treasures of the King's Houſe, and delivered them into the Hand of his Servants : and King Aſa ſent them to Ben-hadad King of Syria, that dwelt at Damascus, ſaying,

19 There is a League between me and thee, and between my Father and thy Father : behold, I have ſent unto thee a Preſent of Silver and Gold ; come and break thy League with Baasha King of Israel, that he may depart from me.

20 So Ben-hadad hearkned unto King Aſa, and ſent the Captains of the Hoſts which he had againſt the Cities of Israel, and ſmote Ijon, and Dan, and Abel-beth-maachah, and all Cinneroth, with all the Land of Naphtali.

21 And it came to paſs, when Baasha heard thereof, that he left off building of Ramah, and dwelt in Tirzah.

2 CHRON. XVI.

7 ▯ And Hanani the Seer came to Aſa King of Judah, and ſaid unto him, Becauſe thou haſt RELIED on the King of Syria, and not RELIED on the LORD thy GOD, therefore is the Hoſt of the King of Syria eſcaped out of thine Hand.

8 Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a huge Hoſt, with very many Chariots and Horſemen? yet becauſe thou didſt RELY on the LORD, he delivered them into thine Hand.

Pſal. cxxv. ▯ They that TRUST in the LORD, ſhall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but ABIDETH for EVER.

Jer. xvii. ▯ Thus ſaith the LORD, Curſed be the Man that truſteth in Man, and maketh Fleſh his Arm, and whoſe Heart departeth from the LORD.

▯ *Pſal. xxxi.* ▯ In thee, O LORD, do I put my TRUST, let me never be aſhamed : deliver me in thy Righteouſneſs.

19 O how great is thy Goodneſs, which thou haſt laid up for them that fear thee ; which thou haſt wrought for them that TRUST in thee, before the Sons of Men!

20 Thou ſhalt hide them in the Secret of thy Preſence from the Pride of Man : thou ſhalt keep them ſecretly in a Pavilion from the Strife of Tongues.

24 Be of good Courage, and he ſhall ſtrengthen your Hearts, all ye that hope in the LORD.

Pſal. cxviii. ▯ It is better to TRUST in the LORD, than to put Confidence in Man.

9 It is better to TRUST in the LORD, than to put Confidence in Princes.

478 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

9 * For the Eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole Earth, to shew himself strong in the Behalf of them whose Heart is perfect towards him. Herein thou hast done foolishly; therefore from henceforth thou shalt have Wars.

* *Rem. viii. 31* What shall we then say to these Things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

Psal. xxxiii. 18 Behold the Eye of LORD is upon them that FEAR him: upon them that HOPE in his MERCY.

19 To deliver their Soul from Death, and to keep them alive in Famine.

20 Our Soul waiteth for the LORD: he is our Help and our SHIELD.

10 Then Aſa was wroth with the Seer, and put him in a Priſon-houſe; for he was in a Rage with him, becauſe of this Thing. And Aſa oppreſſed ſome of the People the ſame time.

12 And Aſa in the thirty and ninth Year of his Reign, was diſeaſed in his Feet, until his Diſeaſe was exceeding great: yet in his Diſeaſe he ſought not to the LORD, but to the Phyſicians.

13 And Aſa ſlept with his Fathers, and died in the one and fortieth Year of his Reign.

14 And they buried him in his own Sepulchres which he had made for himſelf in the City of David, and laid him in the Bed, which was filled with ſweet Odours and divers kinds of Spices prepared by the Apothecaries Art: and they made a very great Burning for him.

I. KINGS, CHAP. XVI.

1 *Jehu's Prophecy againſt Baasha: 5 Elah ſucceedeth him. 8 Zimri conſpiring againſt Elah, ſucceedeth him. 11 Zimri executeth Jehu's Prophecy. 15 Omri made King by the Soldiers, forceth Zimri deſperately to burn himſelf. 21 The Kingdom being divided, Omri prevaileth againſt Tibni. 23 Omri buildeth Samaria: 25 His wicked Reign. 27 Ahab ſucceedeth him. 29 Ahab's moſt wicked Reign. 34 Joſhua's Curſe upon Hiel the Builder of Jericho.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN the Word of the LORD came to Jehu the Son of Hanani, againſt Baasha, ſaying,

2 Forasmuch as I exalted thee out of the Duſt, and made thee Prince over my People Iſrael, and thou haſt walked in the Way of Jeroboam, and haſt made my People Iſrael to ſin, to provoke me to Anger with their Sins:

3 Behold, I will take away the Poſterity of Baasha, and the

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 479

the Posterity of his House : and will make thy House like the House of Jeroboam the Son of Nebat.

4 Him that dieth of Baasha in the City shall the Dogs eat : and him that dieth of his in the Fields, shall the Fowls of the Air eat.

5 Now the rest of the Acts of Baasha, and what he did, and his Might, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel ?

6 So Baasha slept with his Fathers, and was buried in Tirzah, and Elah his Son reigned in his stead.

7 And also by the Hand of the Prophet Jehu the Son of Hanani, came the Word of the LORD against Baasha, and against his House, even for all the Evil that he did in the fight of the LORD, in provoking him to Anger with the Work of his Hands, in being like the House of Jeroboam, and because he killed him.

8 In the twenty and sixth Year of Asa King of Judah, began Elah the Son of Baasha to reign over Israel in Tirzah, two Years.

9 And his Servant Zimri, (Captain of half his Chariots) conspired against him as he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the House of Arza Steward of his House in Tirzah.

10 And Zimri went in and smote him, and killed him, in the twenty and seventh Year of Asa King of Judah, and reigned in his stead.

11 And it came to pass when he began to reign, as soon as he sat on his Throne, that he slew all the House of Baasha : he left him not one that pissed against a Wall, neither of his Kinsfolks, nor of his Friends.

12 Thus did Zimri destroy all the House of Baasha, according to the Word of the LORD, which he spake against Baasha by Jehu the Prophet ;

13 For all the Sins of Baasha, and the Sins of Elah his Son, by which they sinned, and by which they made Israel to sin, in provoking the LORD GOD of Israel to Anger with their Vanities.

14 Now the rest of the Acts of Elah, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel ?

15 In the twenty and seventh Year of Asa King of Judah, did Zimri reign seven Days in Tirzah : and the People were

480 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

were encamped against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines.

16 And the People that were encamped heard say, Zimri hath conspired, and hath also slain the King : wherefore all Israel made Omri the Captain of the Host, King over Israel that Day in the Camp.

17 And Omri went up from Gibbethon, and all Israel with him, and they besieged Tirzah.

18 And it came to pass, when Zimri saw that the City was taken, that he went into the Palace of the King's House, and burnt the King's House over him with Fire, and died ;

19 For his Sins which he sinned in doing Evil in the sight of the LORD, in walking in the Way of Jeroboam, and in his Sin which he did, to make Israel sin.

20 Now the rest of the Acts of Zimri, and his Treason that he wrought, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel ?

21 Then were the People of Israel divided into two Parts : half of the People followed Tibni the Son of Ginath, to make him King ; and half followed Omri.

22 But the People that followed Omri, prevailed against the People that followed Tibni the Son of Ginath : so Tibni died, and Omri reigned.

23 In the thirty and one Year of Asa King of Judah, began Omri to reign over Israel twelve Years : six Years reigned he in Tirzah.

24 And he bought the Hill of Samaria of Shemer, for two Talents of Silver, and built on the Hill, and called the Name of the City which he built, after the Name of Shemer, Owner of the Hill, Samaria.

25 But Omri wrought Evil in the Eyes of the LORD, and did worse than all that were before him.

26 For he walked in all the Way of Jeroboam the Son of Nebat, and in his Sin wherewith he made Israel to sin, to provoke the LORD GOD of Israel to Anger with their Vanities.

27 Now the rest of the Acts of Omri, which he did, and his Might that he shewed, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel ?

28 So Omri slept with his Fathers, and was buried in Samaria, and Ahab his Son reigned in his stead.

29 And in the thirty and eighth Year of Asa King of Judah,

KINGS and CHRONICLES: 487

Judah, began Ahab the Son of Omri to reign over Israel; and Ahab the Son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two Years,

30 And Ahab the Son of Omri did Evil in the sight of the LORD, above all that were before him.

31 And it came to pass, as if it had been a light Thing for him to walk in the Sins of Jeroboam the Son of Nebat; that he took to Wife Jezebel the Daughter of Ethbaal King of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.

32 And he reared up an Altar for Baal, in the House of Baal, which he had built in Samaria.

33 And Ahab made a Grove; And Ahab did more to provoke the LORD GOD of Israel to Anger, than all the Kings of Israel that were before him.

34 In his Days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho: he laid the Foundation thereof in Abiram his First-born, and set up the Gates thereof in his youngest Son Segub, according to the Word of the LORD, which he spake by Joshua the Son of Nun.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XVII.

1 *Jehoshaphat succeeding Asa, reigneth well, and prospereth:*
 7 *He sendeth Levites with the Princes to teach Judah:*
 10 *His Enemies being terrified by GOD, some of them bring him Presents and Tribute:* 12 *His Greatness, Captains, and Armies, consisting of one Million, one hundred and sixty Thousand.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND Jehoshaphat the Son of Asa reigned in his stead, and strengthened himself against Israel.

2 And he placed Forces in all the fenced Cities of Judah, and the Cities of Ephraim, which Asa his Father had taken.

3 And the LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first Ways of his Father David, and fought not unto Baalim;

4 But fought to the LORD GOD of his Fathers, and walked in his Commandments, and not after the Doings of Israel:

5 Therefore the LORD stablished the Kingdom in his Hand, and he had Riches and Honour in abundance.

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6 And

482 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

6 And his Heart was lift up in the Ways of the LORD : moreover, he took away the high Places and Groves out of Judah.

7 Also in the third Year of his Reign, he sent to his Princes, to teach in the Cities of Judah.

8 And with them he sent Levites and Priests.

9 And they taught in Judah, and had the Book of the Law of the LORD with them, and went about throughout all the Cities of Judah, and taught the People.

10 And the Fear of the LORD fell upon all the Kingdoms of the Lands that were round about Judah, so that they made no War against Jehoshaphat.

11 Also some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat Presents, and Tribute-silver; and the Arabians brought him Flocks.

12 And Jehoshaphat waxed great exceedingly, and he built in Judah, Castles, and Cities of Stone.

13 And he had much Business in the Cities of Judah : and the Men of War mighty Men of Valour were in Jerusalem.

14 And these are the Numbers of them : of Judah, the Captains of Thousands; Adnah the Chief, and with him mighty Men of Valour, three hundred thousand.

15 And next to him was Jehohanan the Captain, and with him two hundred and fourscore thousand.

16 And next him was Amasiah, who willingly offered himself unto the LORD ; and with him two hundred thousand mighty Men of Valour.

17 And of Benjamin, Aliada a mighty Man of Valour, and with him, armed Men with Bow and Shield, two hundred thousand.

18 And next him was Jehozabad, and with him an hundred and fourscore thousand ready prepared for the War.

19 These waited on the King, besides those whom the King put in the fenced Cities, throughout all Judah.

I. KINGS. CHAP. XVII.

1 *Elijah having prophesied against Ahab, is sent to Cherith, where the Ravens feed him : 8 He is sent to the Widow of Zarephath : 17 He raiseth the Widow's Son : 24 The Woman believeth him,*

Ver.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 481

Ver. 1 **A**ND Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the Inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be Dew nor Rain these Years, but according to my Word.

2 And the Word of the LORD came unto him, saying,

3 Get thee hence, and turn thee Eastward, and hide thyself by the Brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

4 And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the Brook, and I have commanded the Ravens to feed thee there.

5 So he went, and did according unto the Word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the Brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

6 And the Ravens brought him Bread and Flesh in the Morning, and Bread and Flesh in the Evening, and he drank of the Brook.

7 And it came to pass after a while, that the Brook dried up, because there had been no Rain in the Land.

8 * And the Word of the LORD came unto him, saying,

9 Arise, and get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a Widow-woman there to sustain thee.

* Luke iv. 25 But I tell you of a Truth, many Widows were in Israel in the Days of Elias, when the Heaven was shut up three Years and six Months, when great FAMINE was throughout all the Land.

26 But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a City of Sidon, unto a Woman that was a Widow.

10 So he arose, and went to Zarephath: and when he came to the Gate of the City, behold, the Widow-woman was there gathering of Sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little Water in a Vessel, that I may drink.

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of Bread in thine Hand.

12 And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a Cake, but an handful of Meal in a Barrel, and a little Oil in a Cruse: and behold, I am gathering two Sticks, that I may go in, and dress it for me and my Son, that we may eat it, and die.

13 And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little Cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy Son.

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14 For

484 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

14 For thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, The Barrel of Meal shall not waste, neither shall the Cruse of Oil fail until the Day that the LORD sendeth Rain upon the Earth.

15 And she went, and did according to the Saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her House did eat many Days.

16 And the Barrel of Meal wasted not, neither did the Cruse of Oil fail, according to the Word of the LORD which he spake by Elijah.

17 And it came to pass after these Things, that the Son of the Woman, the Mistress of the House, fell sick, and his Sickness was so sore, that there was no Breath left in him.

18 And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou Man of GOD? art thou come unto me to call my Sin to remembrance, and to slay my Son?

19 And he said unto her, Give me thy Son. And he took him out of her Bosom, and carried him up into a Loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own Bed.

20 And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my GOD, hast thou also brought Evil upon the Widow, with whom I sojourn by slaying her Son?

21 And he stretched himself upon the Child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my GOD, I pray thee, let this Child's Soul come into him again.

22 And the LORD heard the Voice of Elijah, and the Soul of the Child came into him again, and he revived.

23 And Elijah took the Child, and brought him down out of the Chamber into the House, and delivered him unto his Mother: and Elijah said, See, thy Son liveth.

24 And the Woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou art a Man of GOD, and that the Word of the LORD in thy Mouth is Truth.

C H A P. XVIII.

1 *In the Extremities of Famine, Elijah being sent to Ahab, meeteth good Obadiah.* 9 *Obadiah bringeth Ahab to Elijah.*

17 *Elijah reproveth Ahab:* 41 *By Fire from Heaven convinceth Baal's Prophets; by Prayer obtaineth Rain; followeth Ahab to Jezreel.*

Ver.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 485

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass after many Days, that the Word of the LORD came to Elijah in the third Year, saying, Go, shew thyself unto Ahab; and I will send Rain upon the Earth.

2 And Elijah went to shew himself unto Ahab : and there was a sore Famine in Samaria.

3 And Ahab called Obadiah, which was the Governour of his House : (now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly :

4 For it was so when Jezebel cut off the Prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred Prophets, and hid them by fifty in a Cave, and fed them with Bread and Water :)

5 And Ahab said unto Obadiah, Go into the Land unto all Fountains of Water, and unto all Brooks : peradventure we may find Grasse to save the Horses and Mules alive, that we leese not all the Beasts.

6 So they divided the Land between them to pass throughout it : Ahab went one Way by himself, and Obadiah went another Way by himself.

7 And as Obadiah was in the Way, behold, Elijah met him : and he knew him, and fell on his Face, and said, Art thou that my Lord Elijah?

8 And he answered him, I am : go tell thy Lord, Behold, Elijah is here.

9 And he said, What have I sinned, that thou wouldst deliver thy Servant into the Hand of Ahab, to slay me?

10 As the LORD thy GOD liveth, there is no Nation nor Kingdom, whither my Lord hath not sent to seek thee : and when they said, He is not there; he took an Oath of the Kingdom and Nation, that they found thee not.

11 And now thou sayest, Go tell thy LORD, Behold, Elijah is here.

12 And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from thee, that the Spirit of the LORD shall carry thee whither I know not; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he shall slay me : but I thy Servant fear the LORD from my Youth.

13 Was it not told my Lord, what I did when Jezebel slew the Prophets of the LORD? how I hid an hundred Men of the LORD's Prophets by fifty in a Cave, and fed them with Bread and Water?

14 And

486 *KINGS and CHRONICLES*

14 And now thou sayest, Go tell thy LORD, Behold, Elijah is here : and he shall slay me.

15 And Elijah said, As the LORD of Hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely shew myself unto him To-day.

16 So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him : and Ahab went to meet Elijah.

17 And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel ?

18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel, but thou and thy Father's House, in that ye have forsaken the Commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

19 Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto Mount Carmel, and the Prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the Prophets of the Groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's Table.

20 So Ahab sent unto all the Children of Israel, and gathered the Prophets together unto Mount Carmel.

21 And Elijah came unto all the People, and said, How long halt ye between two Opinions ? if the LORD be God, follow him : but if Baal, then follow him. And the People answered him not a Word.

22 Then said Elijah unto the People, I, even I only remain a Prophet of the LORD ; but Baal's Prophets are four hundred and fifty Men.

23 Let them therefore give us two Bullocks, and let them chuse one Bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on Wood, and put no Fire under : and I will dress the other Bullock, and lay it on Wood, and put no Fire under :

24 And call ye on the Name of your Gods, and I will call on the Name of the LORD : and the God that answereth by Fire, let him be God. And all the People answered and said, It is well spoken.

25 And Elijah said unto the Prophets of Baal, Chuse you one Bullock for yourselves, and dress it first, for ye are many : and call on the Name of your Gods, but put no Fire under.

26 And they took the Bullock which was given them, and they dressed it, and called on the Name of Baal from Morning even until Noon, saying, O Baal, hear us : but there was no Voice, nor any that answered : And they leapt upon the Altar which was made,

27 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 487

27 ⁷ And it came to pass at Noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud : for he is a God, either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a Journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked.

28 And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with Knives and Lancets, till the Blood gushed out upon them.

29 And it came to pass when Mid-day was past, and they prophesied until the time of the Offering of the Evening Sacrifice ; that there was neither Voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

30 And ELIJAH said unto all the People, Come near unto me. And all the People came near unto him. And he repaired the Altar of the LORD that was broken down.

31 And ELIJAH took twelve Stones, according to the Number of the Tribes of the Sons of Jacob, unto whom the Word of the LORD came, saying, ISRAEL shall be thy Name.

32 And with the Stones he built an Altar in the Name of the LORD, and he made a Trench about the Altar, as great as would contain two Measures of Seed.

33 And he put the Wood in order, and cut the Bullock in pieces, and laid him on the Wood, and said, Fill four Barrels with Water, and pour it on the Burnt-sacrifice, and on the Wood.

34 And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, Do it the third time. And they did it the third time.

35 And the Water ran round about the Altar, and he filled the Trench also with Water.

36 And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the Evening-sacrifice, that Elijah the Prophet came near, and said, LORD GOD of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this Day, that thou art God in Israel, and that I

⁷ *Psal. xcvi. 5* For all the Gods of the Nations are Idols : but the LORD made the HEAVENS.

Psal. xcvi. 7 CONFOUNDED be all they that serve graven Images, that boast themselves of Idols ; worship him all ye Gods.

Psal. cxv. 3 But our God is in the HEAVENS : he hath done whatsoever he pleased.

⁴ Their Idols are Silver and Gold, the Work of Mens Hands.

⁵ They have Mouths, but they speak not ; Eyes have they, but they see not.

⁶ They have Ears, but they hear not ; Noises have they, but they understand not.

⁷ They have Hands, but they handle not ; Feet have they, but they walk not ; neither speak they thro' their Throat.

⁸ They that MAKE them are LIKE UNTO them ; so is every one that TRUSTETH in them.

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488 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

am thy Servant, and that I have done all these Things at thy Word.

37 Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this People may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their Heart back again.

38 Then the Fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the Burnt-sacrifice, and the Wood, and the Stones, and the Dust, and licked up the Water that was in the Trench.

39 And when all the People saw it, they fell on their Faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God, the LORD, he is the God.

40 And Elijah said unto them, Take the Prophets of Baal, let not one of them escape: And they took them, and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon, and slew them there.

41 And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink, for there is a Sound of abundance of Rain.

42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink, and Elijah went up to the top of Carmel, and he cast himself down upon the Earth, and put his Face between his Knees,

43 And said to his Servant, Go up now, look toward the Sea. And he went up and looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times.

44 And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little Cloud out of the Sea, like a Man's Hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy Chariot, and get thee down, that the Rain stop thee not.

45 And it came to pass in the mean while that the Heaven was black with Clouds and Wind, and there was a great Rain: and Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.

46 And the Hand of the LORD was on Elijah, and he girded up his Loins, and ran before Ahab to the Entrance of Jezreel.

C H A P. XIX.

1 *Elijah threatened by Jezebel, fleeth to Beer-sheba: 4 In the Wilderness being weary of his Life, is comforted by an Angel: 9 At Horeb God appeareth unto him, sending him to anoint Hazael, Jehu, and Elisha. 19 Elisha taking leave of his Friends followeth Elijah.*

Ver.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 489

Ver. 1 **A**ND Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal, how he had slain all the Prophets with the Sword.

2 Then Jezebel sent a Messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the Gods do to me and more also, if I make not thy Life as the Life of one of them, by To-morrow about this time.

3 And when he saw that, he arose and went for his Life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his Servant there.

4 But he himself went a Day's Journey into the Wilderness, and came and sat down under a Juniper-tree: and he requested for himself that he might die, and said, It is enough now, O LORD, take away my Life: for I am not better than my Fathers.

5 ² And as he lay and slept under a Juniper-tree, behold then, an ANGEL touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.

Heb. i. 7 And of the ANGELS he saith, Who maketh his ANGELS SPIRITS, and his Ministers a Flame of Fire.

6 And he looked, and behold, there was a Cake baken

14 Are they not all MINISTERING SPIRITS, sent forth to MINISTER for them who shall be the HEIRS of SALVATION.

on the Coals, and a Cruse of Water at his Head: and he did eat and drink, and laid him down again.

7 And the Angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise, and eat, because the Journey is too great for thee.

8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the Strength of that Meat forty Days, and forty Nights, unto HOREB the Mount of GOD.

9 And he came thither unto a Cave, and lodged there, and behold, the Word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, What dost thou here, Elijah?

10 And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD GOD of Hosts: for the Children of Israel have forsaken thy Covenant, thrown down thine Altars, and slain thy Prophets with the Sword, and I, even I only am left, and they seek my Life, to take it away.

11 And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the Mount before the LORD. And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong Wind rent the Mountains, and brake in pieces the Rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not

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490 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

in the Wind : and after the Wind an Earthquake, but the LORD was not in the Earthquake.

12 And after the Earthquake, a Fire, but the LORD was not in the Fire: and after the Fire, a still small Voice.

13 And it was so when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his Face in his Mantle, and went out and stood in the entering in of the Cave : and behold, there came a Voice unto him, and said, What dost thou here, Elijah?

14 And he said I have been very jealous for the LORD God of Hosts, because the Children of Israel have forsaken thy Covenant, thrown down thine Altars, and slain thy Prophets with the Sword, and I, even I only am left, and they seek my Life, to take it away.

15 And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be King over Syria.

16 * And Jehu the Son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be King over Israel; and Elisha the Son of Shaphat of Abel-meolah, shalt thou anoint to be Prophet in thy Room.

17 And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the Sword of Hazael, shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the Sword of Jehu, shall Elisha slay.

18 * Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the Knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every Mouth which hath not kissed him.

19 So he departed thence and found Elisha, who was plowing with twelve Yoke of Oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: And Elijah passed by him, and cast his Mantle upon him.

* *Psal. lxxv. 6* Promotion cometh neither from the East, nor from the West, nor from the South.

7 But God is the JUDGE: he PUTTETH down one, and SETTETH up another.

8 For in the Hand of the LORD there is a Cup, and the Wine is red; it is full of Mixture, and he poureth out of the same; but the Dregs thereof, all the Wicked of the Earth shall bring them out and drink them.

Dan. ii. 20 Daniel answered and said, BLESSED be the Name of God for Ever and Ever: for WISDOM and MIGHT are HIS.

21 And he changeth the TIMES and the SEASONS: he REMOVETH KINGS, and SETTETH UP KINGS: he giveth WISDOM unto the Wise, and KNOWLEDGE to them that know Understanding.

Dan. iv. 4 I Nebuchadnezzar was at Rest in mine House, and flourishing in my Palace.

5 I saw a Dream which made me afraid, and the Thoughts upon my Bed, and the Visions of my Head troubled me.

13 I saw in the Visions of my Head upon my Bed, and behold, a Watcher and an HOLY ONE came down from Heaven.

14 He cried aloud, and said thus,

* 2 Tim. ii. 9 *The LORD knoweth those that are his.*

20 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 491

20 And he left the Oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray thee, kifs my Father and my Mother, and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him, Go back again, for what have I done to thee?

21 And he returned back from him, and took a Yoke of Oxen, and flew them, and boiled their Flesh with the Instruments of the Oxen, and gave unto the People, and they did eat: Then he arose and went after Elijah, and ministred unto him.

Hew down the Tree, and cut off his Branches, shake off his Leaves, and scatter his Fruit; let the Beasts get away from under it, and the Fowls from his Branches.

15 Nevertheless, leave the Stump of his Roots in the Earth, even with a Band of Iron and Brails, and let it be wet with the Dew of Heaven, and let his Portion be with the Beasts in the Grass of the Earth.

16 Let his Heart be changed from Man's, and let a Beast's Heart be given unto him, and let seven Times pass over him.

17 This Matter is by the Decree of the WATCHERS, and the Demand by the Word of the HOLY ONES: to the Intent that the Living may know, that the MOST HIGH RULETH in the KINGDOM of Men, and GIVETH it to whomsoever he will, and SETTETH UP over it the BASEST of MEN.

Job xii. 17 He leadeth the Counsellors away spoiled, and maketh the Judges Fools.

19 He leadeth PRINCES away SPOILED, and REMOVETH the MIGHTY.

21 He poureth CONTEMPT upon PRINCES, and weakneth the STRENGTH of the MIGHTY.

Psal. cvii. 40 He poureth CONTEMPT upon PRINCES, and causeth them to WANDER in the Wildernesse, where there is no Way.

Psal. ii. 10 Be WISE now therefore, O ye KINGS: be INSTRUCTED, ye JUDGES of the Earth.

11 SERVE the LORD with FEAR, and REJOYCE with TREMBLING.

C H A P. XX.

Benhadad besiegeth Samaria. 13 *The Syrians are slain.*
31 *Ahab dismisseth Benhadad:* 35 *The Prophet reproveth him.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND Benhadad the King of Syria gathered all his Host together, and there were thirty and two Kings with him: and he besieged Samaria.

2 And he sent Messengers to Ahab, and said unto him, Thus saith Benhadad,

3 Thy Silver, and thy Gold is mine, thy Wives also, and thy Children, even the goodliest are mine.

4 And the King of Israel answered, and said, My LORD, O King, according to thy Saying I am thine, and all that I have.

5 And the Messengers came again, and said, Thus speaketh Benhadad, saying, Although I have sent unto thee, say-

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492 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

ing, Thou shalt deliver me thy Silver, and thy Gold, and thy Wives, and thy Children :

6 Yet I will send my Servants unto thee To-morrow about this time, and they shall search thine House, and the Houses of thy Servants : and it shall be, that whatsoever is pleasant in thine Eyes, they shall put it in their Hand, and take it away.

7 Then the King of Israel called all the Elders of the Land, and said, Mark I pray you, and see how this Man seeketh Mischief : for he sent unto me for my Wives, and for my Children, and for my Silver, and for my Gold, and I denied him not.

8 And all the Elders, and all the People said unto him, Hearken not unto him, nor consent.

9 Wherefore he said unto the Messengers of Benhadad, Tell my Lord the King, all that thou didst send for to thy Servant at the first I will do : but this Thing I may not do. And the Messengers departed, and brought him word again.

10 And Benhadad sent unto him, and said, The Gods do so unto me and more also, if the Dust of Samaria shall suffice for Handfuls for all the People that follow me.

11 And the King of Israel answered, and said, Tell him, Let not him that girdeth on his Harness boast himself, as he that putteth it off.

12 And it came to pass when Benhadad heard this Message (as he was drinking he and the Kings in the Pavillions) that he said unto his Servants, Set yourselves in Aray. And they set themselves in Aray against the City.

13 And behold, there came a Prophet unto Ahab, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou seen all this great multitude? behold, I will deliver it into thine Hand this Day, and thou shalt know that I am the LORD.

14 And Ahab said, By whom? And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Even by the young Men of the Princes of the Provinces. Then he said, Who shall order the Battle? And he answered, Thou.

15 Then he numbred the young Men of the Princes of the Provinces, and they were two hundred and thirty two, and after them he numbred all the People, even all the Children of Israel, being seven thousand.

16 And they went out at Noon : But Benhadad was drinking himself drunk in the Pavillions, he and the Kings, the thirty and two Kings that helped him.

17 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 493

17 And the young Men of the Princes of the Provinces went out first, and Benhadad sent out, and they told him, saying, There are Men come out of Samaria.

18 And he said, Whether they be come out for Peace, take them alive : or whether they be come out for War, take them alive.

19 So these young Men of the Princes of the Provinces came out of the City, and the Army which followed them :

20 And they slew every one his Man : and the Syrians fled, and Israel pursued them : and Benhadad the King of Syria escaped on an Horse, with the Horsemen.

21 And the King of Israel went out, and smote the Horses and Chariots, and slew the Syrians with a great Slaughter.

22 And the Prophet came to the King of Israel, and said unto him, Go, strengthen thyself, and mark, and see what thou dost : for at the return of the Year the King of Syria will come up against thee.

23 And the Servants of the King of Syria said unto him, Their Gods are Gods of the Hills, therefore they were stronger than we : but let us fight against them in the Plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they.

25 And number thee an Army, like the Army that thou hast lost : and we will fight against them in the Plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they. And he hearkened unto their Voice, and did so.

26 And it came to pass at the return of the Year, that Benhadad went up to Aphek, to fight against Israel.

27 And the Children of Israel were numbred, and were all present, and went against them, and the Children of Israel pitched before them, like two little Flocks of Kids : but the Syrians filled the Countrey.

28 And there came a Man of GOD, and spake unto the King of Israel, and said, Thus saith the LORD, Because the Syrians have said, The LORD is GOD of the Hills, but he is not GOD of the Vallies : therefore will I deliver all this great Multitude into thine Hand, and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

29 And they pitched one over against the other seven Days, and so it was, that on the seventh Day the Battle was joined : and the Children of Israel slew of the Syrians an hundred thousand Footmen in one Day.

30 But

494 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

30 But the rest fled to Aphek into the City, and there a Wall fell upon twenty and seven thousand of the Men that were left; and Benhadad fled, and came into the City, into an inner Chamber.

31 And his Servants said unto him, Behold now, we have heard that the Kings of the House of Israel are merciful Kings: let us, I pray thee, put Sackcloth on our Loins, and Ropes upon our Heads, and go out to the King of Israel; peradventure he will save thy Life.

32 So they girded Sackcloth on their Loins, and put Ropes on their Heads, and came to the King of Israel, and said, Thy Servant Benhadad saith, I pray thee, let me live. And he said, Is he yet alive? he is my Brother.

33 Now the Men did diligently observe whether any thing would come from him, and did hastily catch it: and they said, Thy Brother Benhadad. Then he said, Go ye, bring him: then Benhadad came forth to him, and he caused him to come up into the Chariot.

34 And Benhadad said unto him, The Cities which my Father took from thy Father, I will restore, and thou shalt make Streets for thee in Damascus, as my Father made in Samaria. Then said Ahab, I will send thee away with this Covenant. So he made a Covenant with him, and sent him away.

35 And a certain Man of the Sons of the Prophets said unto his Neighbour in the Word of the LORD, Smite me, I pray thee. And the Man refused to smite him.

36 Then said he unto him, Because thou hast not obeyed the Voice of the LORD, behold, as soon as thou art departed from me, a Lion shall slay thee. And as soon as he was departed from him, a Lion found him, and slew him.

37 Then he found another Man, and said, Smite me, I pray thee. And the Man smote him, so that in smiting he wounded him.

38 So the Prophet departed, and waited for the King by the Way, and disguised himself with Ashes upon his Face.

39 And as the King passed by, he cried unto the King: and he said, Thy Servant went out into the midst of the Battle, and behold, a Man turned aside, and brought a Man unto me, and said, Keep this Man: if by any means he be missing, then shall thy Life be for his Life, or else thou shalt pay a Talent of Silver.

40 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 495

40 And as thy Servant was busy here and there, he was gone. And the King of Israel said unto him, So shall thy Judgment be; thyself hast decided it.

41 And he hasted, and took the Ashes away from his Face, and the King of Israel discerned him, that he was of the Prophets.

42 And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Because thou hast let go out of thy Hand a Man whom I appointed to utter Destruction, therefore thy Life shall go for his Life, and thy People for his People.

43 And the King of Israel went to his House heavy and displeased, and came to Samaria.

C H A P. XXI.

1 *Ahab being denied Naboth's Vineyard, is grieved.* 5 *Jezebel writing Letters against Naboth, he is condemned of Blasphemy.* 15 *Ahab taketh possession of the Vineyard.* 17 *Elijah denounceth Judgments against Ahab and Jezebel.* 25 *Wicked Ahab repenting, GOD deferreth the Judgment.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass after these Things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a Vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the Palace of Ahab King of Samaria.

2 ^b And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy Vineyard, that I may have it for a Garden of Herbs, because it is near unto mine House, and I will give thee for it a better Vineyard than it: or if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the Worth of it in Money.

3 And Naboth said to Ahab, The LORD forbid it me, that I should give the Inheritance of my Fathers unto thee.

4 And Ahab came into his House heavy and displeased, because of the Word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had

^b *Habak. ii. 9* Wo to him that coveteth an evil Covetousness to his House, that he may set his Nest on high.

11 For the Stone shall cry out of the Wall, and the Beam out of the Timber shall answer it.

12 Wo to him that buildeth a Town with Blood, and stablisheth a City by Iniquity.

10 Thou hast consulted Shame to thy House, by cutting off many People, and hast sinned against thy Soul.

Luke xii. 15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of Covetousness: for a Man's Life consisteth not in the abundance of the Things which he possesseth.

Ephes. v. 3 But Fornication, and all Uncleanness, or Covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh Saints.

6 Let no Man deceive you with vain Words: for because of these Things cometh the WRATH of God upon the Children of Disobedience.

said

496 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

said, I will not give thee the Inheritance of my Fathers : and he laid him down upon his Bed, and turned away his Face, and would eat no Bread.

5 But Jezebel his Wife came to him, and said unto him, Why is thy Spirit so sad, that thou eatest no Bread?

6 And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy Vineyard for Money, or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another Vineyard for it : and he answered, I will not give thee my Vineyard.

7 ^c And Jezebel his Wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the Kingdom of Israel? Arise and eat Bread, and let thine Heart be merry : I will give thee the Vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

^c 1 Tim. vi. 9 They that will be RICH FALL INTO TEMPTATION and a SNARE, and into many foolish and hurtful LUSTS, which drown Men in DESTRUCTION and PERDITION.

10 FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY is the ROOT of all EVIL : which while some covered after, they have ERRED from the FAITH, and pierced themselves thro' with many Sorrows.

8 So she wrote Letters in Ahab's Name, and sealed them with his Seal, and sent the Letters unto the Elders, and to the Nobles that were in his City dwelling with Naboth.

9 And she wrote in the Letters, saying, Proclaim a Fast, and set Naboth on high among the People :

10 And set two Men, Sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme God and the King : and then carry him out, and stone him that he may die.

11 And the Men of his City, even the Elders, and the Nobles, who were the Inhabitants in his City, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the Letters which she had sent unto them.

12 They proclaimed a Fast, and set Naboth on high among the People.

13 And there came in two Men, Children of Belial, and sat before him : and the Men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the Presence of the People, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the King. Then they carried him forth out of the City, and stoned him with Stones that he died.

14 Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead.

15 And when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of

of

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 497

of the Vineyard of Naboth, which he refused to give thee for Money : for Naboth is not alive but dead.

16 And when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, he rose up to go down to the Vineyard of Naboth, to take possession of it.

17 And the Word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

18 Arise, go down to meet Ahab King of Israel, which is in Samaria : behold, he is in the Vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it.

19 ⁴ And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, Hast thou KILLED, and also taken POSSESSION? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, In the Place where Dogs licked the Blood of Naboth, shall Dogs lick thy Blood, even thine.

⁴ *Psal. lxxvi. 12* He shall cut off the Spirit of Princes, he is wonderful to the Kings of the Earth.

Rev. xv. 4 Who shall not FEAR thee, O Lord, and glorify thy Name? for thou only art HOLY, for all Nations shall come and worship before thee, for thy JUDGEMENTS are made manifest.

20 And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine Enemy? And he answered, I have found thee, because thou hast sold thyself to work Evil in the sight of the Lord.

21 Behold, I will bring Evil upon thee, and will take away thy POSTERITY, and will cut off from Ahab him that pisseth against the Wall, and him that is shut up, and left in Israel,

22 And will make thine House like the House of Jeroboam the Son of Nebat, and like the House of Baasha the Son of Ahijah, for the Provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to Anger, and made Israel to sin.

23 And of Jezebel also spake the Lord, saying, The Dogs shall EAT Jezebel by the Wall of Jezreel.

24 Him that dieth of Ahab in the City, the Dogs shall eat : and him that dieth in the Field, shall the Fowls of the Air eat.

25 But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work Wickedness in the sight of the Lord, whom Jezebel his Wife STIRRED up.

26 And he did very abominably in following Idols, according to all Things as did the Amorites, whom the Lord cast out before the Children of Israel.

27 And it came to pass when Ahab heard those Words,
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that

498 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

that he rent his Clothes, and put Sackcloth upon his Flesh, and fasted and lay in Sackcloth, and went softly.

28 And the Word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

29 Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the Evil in his Days: but in his Son's Days will I bring the Evil upon his House.

C H A P. XXII.

1 *Ahab seduced by false Prophets, according to the Word of Micaiah, is slain at Ramoth-Gilead: 37 The Dogs lick up his Blood, and Ahaziah succeedeth him. 41 Jehoshaphat's good Reign, 45 and Aſſs. 50 Jehoram succeedeth him. 51 Ahaziah's evil Reign.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND they continued three Years without War between Syria and Israel.

2 And it came to pass in the third Year, that Jehoshaphat the King of Judah came down to the King of Israel.

3 (And the King of Israel said unto his Servants, Know ye that Ramoth in Gilead is ours, and we be still, and take it not out of the Hand of the King of Syria?)

4 And he said unto Jehoshaphat, Wilt thou go with me to Battle to Ramoth-Gilead? And Jehoshaphat said to the King of Israel, I am as thou art, my People as thy People, my Horses as thy Horses.

5 And Jehoshaphat said unto the King of Israel, Enquire, I pray thee, at the Word of the LORD To-day.

6 Then the King of Israel gathered the Prophets together, about four hundred Men, and said unto them, Shall I go against Ramoth-Gilead to Battle, or shall I forbear? And they said, Go up, for the LORD shall deliver it into the Hand of the King.

7 And Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a Prophet of the LORD besides, that we might enquire of him?

8 And the King of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, There is yet one Man (Micaiah the Son of Imlah) by whom we may enquire of the LORD, but I hate him, for he doth not prophesy Good concerning me, but Evil. And Jehoshaphat said, Let not the King say so.

9 Then

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 499

9 Then the King of Israel called an Officer, and said, Hasten hither Micaiah the Son of Imlah.

10 And the King of Israel, and Jehoshaphat the King of Judah, sate each on his Throne, having put on their Robes, in a void Place, in the Entrance of the Gate of Samaria, and all the Prophets prophesied before them.

11 And Zedekiah the Son of Chenaanah made him Horns of Iron, and he said, Thus saith the LORD, With these shalt thou push the Syrians, until thou have consumed them.

12 And all the Prophets prophesied so, saying, Go up to Ramoth-Gilead, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the King's Hand.

13 And the Messenger that was gone to call Micaiah, spake unto him, saying, Behold now, the Words of the Prophets declare Good unto the King with one Mouth: let thy Word, I pray thee, be like the Word of one of them, and speak that which is good.

14 And Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak.

15 So he came to the King, and the King said unto him, Micaiah, shall we go against Ramoth-Gilead to Battle, or shall we forbear? And he answered him, Go, and prosper: for the LORD shall deliver it into the Hand of the King.

16 And the King said unto him, How many Times shall I adjure thee that thou tell me nothing but that which is true in the Name of the LORD?

17 And he said, I saw all Israel scattered upon the Hills, as Sheep that have not a Shepherd. And the LORD said, These have no Master, let them return every Man to his House in Peace.

18 And the King of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell thee that he would prophesy no Good concerning me, but Evil?

19 And he said, Hear thou therefore the Word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his Throne, and all the Host of Heaven standing by him, on his Right hand, and on his Left.

20 And the LORD said, Who shall persuade Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-Gilead? And one said on this Manner, and another said on that Manner.

21 And there came forth a Spirit, and stood before the LORD, and said, I will persuade him.

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22 And

500 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

22 And the LORD said unto him, Wherewith? And he said, I will go forth, and I will be a lying Spirit in the Mouth of all his Prophets. And he said, Thou shalt persuade him, and prevail also: Go forth, and do so.

23 Now therefore behold, the LORD hath put a lying Spirit in the Mouth of all these Prophets, and the LORD hath spoken Evil concerning thee.

24 But Zedekiah the Son of Chenaanah went near, and smote Micaiah on the Cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak unto thee?

25 And Micaiah said, Behold, thou shalt see in that Day when thou shalt go into an inner Chamber to hide thyself.

26 And the King of Israel said, Take Micaiah, and carry him back unto Amon the Governour of the City, and to Joash the King's Son:

27 And say, Thus saith the King, Put this Fellow in the Prison, and feed him with Bread of Affliction, and with Water of Affliction, until I come in Peace.

28 And Micaiah said, If thou return at all in Peace, the LORD hath not spoken by me. And he said, Harken, O People, every one of you.

29 So the King of Israel, and Jehoshaphat the King of Judah went up to Ramoth-Gilead.

30 And the King of Israel said unto Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself, and enter into the Battle, but put thou on thy Robes. And the King of Israel disguised himself, and went into the Battle.

31 But the King of Syria commanded his thirty and two Captains that had Rule over his Chariots, saying, Fight neither with Small nor Great, save only with the King of Israel.

32 And it came to pass when the Captains of the Chariots saw Jehoshaphat, that they said, Surely it is the King of Israel. And they turned aside to fight against him: and Jehoshaphat cried out.

33 And it came to pass, when the Captains of the Chariots perceived that it was not the King of Israel, that they turned back from pursuing him.

34 And a certain Man drew a Bow at a Venture, and smote the King of Israel between the Joynts of the Harness: wherefore he said unto the Driver of his Chariot, Turn thine Hand, and carry me out of the Host, for I am wounded.

35 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 501

35 And the Battle increased that Day : and the King was stayed up in his Chariot against the Syrians, and died at Even : and the Blood ran out of the Wound into the midst of the Chariot.

36 And there went a Proclamation throughout the Host, about the going down of the Sun, saying, Every Man to his City, and every Man to his own Countrey.

37 So the King died, and was brought to Samaria, and they buried the King in Samaria.

38 And one washed the Chariot in the Pool of Samaria, and the Dogs licked up his BLOOD, and they washed his Armour, according unto to the WORD of the LORD which he spake.

39 Now the rest of the Acts of Ahab, and all that he did, and the Ivory House which he made, and all the Cities that he built, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

40 So Ahab slept with his Fathers, and Ahaziah his Son reigned in his stead.

41 And JEHOSHAPHAT the Son of ASA began to reign over Judah in the fourth Year of Ahab King of Israel.

42 Jehoshaphat was thirty and five Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and five Years in Jerusalem : and his Mother's Name was Azubah the Daughter of Shishi.

43 And he walked in all the Way of ASA his Father, he turned not aside from it, doing that which was RIGHT in the Eyes of the LORD : nevertheless the high Places were not taken away ; for the People offered and burnt Incense yet in the high Places.

44 And Jehoshaphat made Peace with the King of Israel.

II. C H R O N. C H A P. XIX.

1 *Jehoshaphat reproveth by Jehu visiteth his Kingdom : 5 His Instructions to the Judges, 8 to the Priests and Levites.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND Jehoshaphat King of Judah returned to his House in Peace to Jerusalem.

2 * And Jehu the Son of Hanani the SEER, went out to meet him, and said to King

** Psal. xv. 1 LORD, who shall abide in thy Tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy Hill?*

Jeho-

502 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

Jehoshaphat, Shouldst thou help the UNGODLY, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is WRATH upon thee from before the LORD.

3 Nevertheless, there are good Things found in thee, in that thou hast taken away the Groves out of the Land, and hast PREPARED thine HEART to SEEK GOD.

4 And Jehoshaphat dwelt in Jerusalem: and he went out again through the People, from Beer-sheba to Mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto the LORD GOD of their Fathers.

5 And he set Judges in the Land, throughout all the fenced Cities of Judah,

6 And said to the Judges, Take heed what ye do: for ye judge not for Men, but for the LORD, who is with you in the JUDGMENT.

7 Wherefore now let the FEAR of the LORD be upon you, take heed and do it: for there is no Iniquity with the LORD our God, nor Respect of Persons, nor taking of Gifts.

8 Moreover, in Jerusalem did Jehoshaphat set of the Levites, and of the Priests, and of the chief of the Fathers of Israel, for the Judgment of the LORD, and for Controversies, when they returned to Jerusalem.

9 And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the FEAR of the LORD, FAITHFULLY, and with a PERFECT Heart.

10 And what Cause soever shall come to you of your Brethren that dwell in their Cities, between Blood and Blood, between Law and Commandment, Statutes and Judgments, ye shall even warn them that they TRESPASS not against the LORD, and so WRATH come upon you and your Brethren: This do, and ye shall not TRESPASS.

11 And behold, Amariah the chief Priest is over you in all Matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah the Ruler of the House of Judah, for all the King's Matters: also the Levites

2 He that WALKETH UPRIGHTLY, and WORKETH RIGHTEOUSNESS, and SPEAKETH the TRUTH in his Heart.

4 In whose Eyes a VILE PERSON is CONTEMNED: but he honoureth them that fear the LORD: he that sweareth to his own Hurt and changeth not.

Psal. cxxxix. 19 Surely thou wilt slay the Wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody Men.

20 For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine Enemies take thy Name in vain.

21 Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee.

Psal. xvi. 2 O my Soul, thou hast said unto the LORD, Thou art my LORD: my Goodness extendeth not to thee,

3 But to the SAINTS that are in the Earth, and to the EXCELLENT in whom is all my Delight.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 503

vites shall be Officers before you. Deal courageously, and the LORD shall be with the Good.

C H A P. XX.

i Jehoshaphat in his Fear proclaimeth a Fast : 5 His Prayer. 14 The Prophecy of Jahaziel. 20 Jehoshaphat exhorteth the People, and setteth Singers to praise the LORD. 22 The great Overthrow of the Enemies. 26 The People having blessed God at Beracha, return in Triumph. 31 Jehoshaphat's Reign : 35 His Convoy of Ships which he made with Abaziah, according to the Prophecy of Eliezer, unhappily perished.

Ver. 1 IT came to pass after this also, that the Children of Moab, and the Children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to Battle.

2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There comes a great multitude against thee from beyond the Sea on this side Syria, and behold, they be in Hazazon-tamar which is En-gedi.

3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to SEEK the LORD, and proclaimed a Fast throughout all Judah.

4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ASK HELP of the LORD : even out of all the Cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the Congregation of Judah, in the House of the LORD.

6 And said, O LORD GOD of our Fathers, art not thou GOD in HEAVEN? and RULEST not thou over all the KINGDOMS of the Heathen? and in thine Hand is there not POWER and Might, so that NONE is able to WITHSTAND thee.

7 Art not thou our GOD, who didst drive out the Inhabitants of this Land before thy People Israel, and gavest it to the Seed of Abraham thy Friend for ever?

8 And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a Sanctuary therein for thy Name, saying,

9 If when Evil cometh upon us, as the Sword, Judgment, or Pestilence, or Famine, we stand before this House, and in thy Presence (for thy Name is in this House) and cry unto thee in our Affliction, then thou wilt hear and help.

10 And

304 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

10 And now, behold, the Children of Ammon, and Moab, and Mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the Land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not.

11 Behold, I say, how they reward us to come to cast us out of thy Possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.

12 ^f O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have NO MIGHT against this great Company that cometh against us: neither KNOW we WHAT to do, but our EYES are upon thee.

13 And all Judah stood before the LORD, with their Little ones, their Wives, and their Children.

14 Then upon Jahaziel a Levite of the Sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the Congregation:

15 And he said, Harken ye, all Judah, and ye Inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou King Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not AFRAID, nor dismayed by reason of this great Multitude; for the BATTLE is not YOURS, but God's.

16 To-morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the Cliff of Ziz, and ye shall find them at the End of the Brook, before the Wilderness of Zeruel.

17 Ye shall not need to fight in this Battle; set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the SALVATION of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: FEAR not, nor be dismayed; To-morrow go out against them, for the LORD will be with you.

^f *Psal. cxlii. 8* Mine EYES are unto thee, O God the LORD: in thee is my TRUST, leave not my Soul destitute.

⁹ Keep me from the Snare which they have laid for me, and the Gins of the Workers of Iniquity.

¹⁰ Let the Wicked fall into their own Nets, whilst that I withal escape.

Psal. l. 15 CALL upon me in the DAY of TROUBLE; I will DELIVER thee, and thou shalt GLORIFY me.

Phil. iv. 6 Be careful for nothing: but in EVERY THING by PRAYER and SUPPLICATION with THANKSGIVING, let your REQUESTS be made known unto God.

Psal. xxvii. 1 The LORD is my LIGHT and my SALVATION, whom shall I FEAR? the LORD is the STRENGTH of my LIFE, of whom shall I be AFRAID.

² When the Wicked, even mine Enemies and my Foes come upon me to eat up my Flesh, they stumbled and fell.

³ Though an Host should encamp against me, my Heart shall not fear: though WAR should rise against me, in this will I be CONFIDENT.

⁴ One Thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the House of the LORD all the Days of my Life, to behold the BEAUTY of the LORD, and to enquire in his Temple.

⁵ For in the Time of TROUBLE he shall HIDE me in his Pavilion: in the Secret of his Tabernacle shall he hide me, he shall set me up upon a Rock.

18 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 505

18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his Head, with his Face to the Ground : and all Judah, and the Inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.

19 And the Levites of the Children of the Cohathites, of the Children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud Voice on high.

20 And they rose early in the Morning, and went forth into the Wilderness of Tekoa : and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood, and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye Inhabitants of Jerusalem, BELIEVE in the LORD your God, so shall you be ESTABLISHED ; BELIEVE his PROPHETS, so shall ye PROSPER.

21 And when he had consulted with the People, he appointed Singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the BEAUTY of HOLINESS, as they went out before the Army, and to say, ¹ PRAISE the LORD, for his MERCY ENDURETH for ever.

² *Psal. cxxxvi.* 1 O give Thanks unto the LORD, for he is good : for his Mercy endureth for ever.

22 And when they began to SING and to PRAISE, the LORD set Ambushments against the Children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, which were come against Judah, and they were smitten.

23 ¹ For the Children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the Inhabitants of Mount Seir, utterly to SLAY and DESTROY them : and when they had made an End of the Inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to DESTROY another.

² *Psal. xxxvii.* 15 Their Sword shall enter into their own HEART, and their Bows shall be BROKEN.

Psal. lvi. 1 Make a joyful Noise unto God, all ye Lands.

2 Sing forth the Honour of his NAME : make his PRAISE GLORIOUS.

3 Say unto God, How TERRIBLE art thou in thy Works ! through the GREATNESS of thy Power shall thine Enemies submit themselves unto thee.

24 And when Judah came toward the Watch-tower in the Wilderness, they looked unto the Multitude, and behold, they were dead Bodies FALLEN to the Earth, and none escaped.

5 Come and see the Works of God : he is TERRIBLE in his Doing toward the Children of Men.

7 He RULETH by his Power for ever, his Eyes behold the Nations : let not the REBELLIOUS exalt themselves.

25 And when Jehoshaphat and his People came to take away the Spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both Riches with the dead Bodies, and precious Jewels (which they stript off for themselves) more than they

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could

306 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

could carry away : and they were three Days in gathering of the Spoil, it was so much.

26 And on the fourth Day they assembled themselves in the Valley of Berachah ; for there they blessed the LORD : therefore the Name of the same Place was called, The Valley of Berachah unto this Day.

27 Then they returned every Man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in the Forefront of them, to go again to Jerusalem with Joy : for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their Enemies.

28 And they came to Jerusalem with Psalteries, and Harps, and Trumpets, unto the House of the LORD.

29 And the FEAR of GOD was on all the KINGDOMS of those Countries, when they had heard that the LORD fought against the Enemies of Israel.

30 So the Realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet ; for his GOD gave him REST round about.

35 And after this did Jehoshaphat King of Judah join himself with Ahaziah King of Israel, who did very wickedly.

36 And he joined himself with him to make Ships to go to Tarshish : and they made the Ships in Ezion-gaber.

37 Then Eliezer prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying, Because thou hast JOINED thyself with Ahaziah, the LORD hath BROKEN thy Works. And the SHIPS were BROKEN, that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

I KINGS XXII.

51 Ahaziah the Son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the seventeenth Year of Jehoshaphat King of Judah, and reigned two Years over Israel.

52 And he did Evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his Father, and in the way of his Mother, and in the way of Jeroboam, who made Israel to sin.

53 For he served Baal, and worshipped him, and provoked to Anger the LORD GOD of Israel, according to all that his Father had done.

II. *KINGS,*

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 507

II. KINGS, CHAP. I.

1 Moab rebelleth. 2 Abaziah sending to Baalzebub, hath his Judgment by Elijah. 5 Elijah twice bringeth Fire from Heaven upon them whom Abaziah sent to apprehend him : 13 He pitieth the third Captain, and encouraged by an Angel, telleth the King of his Death : Jehoram succeedeth Abaziah.

Ver. 1 **T**HEN Moab rebelled against Israel, after the Death of Ahab.

2 And Ahaziah fell down through a Lattise in his upper Chamber that was in Samaria, and was sick : and he sent Messengers, and said unto them, Go, enquire of Baalzebub the God of Ekron, whether I shall recover of this Disease.

3 But the Angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite, Arise, go up to meet the Messengers of the King of Samaria, and say unto them, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that ye go to enquire of Baalzebub the God of Ekron ?

4 Now therefore thus saith the LORD, Thou shalt not come down from that Bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. And Elijah departed.

5 And when the Messengers turned back unto him, he said unto them, Why are ye now turned back ?

6 And they said unto him, There came a Man up to meet us, and said unto us, Go turn again unto the King that sent you, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Is it not because there is not a God in Israel, that thou sendest to enquire of Baalzebub the God of Ekron ? therefore thou shalt not come down from that Bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.

7 And he said unto them, What manner of Man was he which came up to meet you, and told you these Words ?

8 And they answered him, He was an hairy Man, and girt with a Girdle of Leather about his Loyns. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite.

9 Then the King sent unto him a Captain of fifty, with his fifty : and he went up to him (and behold, he sat on the top of the Hill) and he spake unto him, Thou Man of God, the King hath said, Come down.

T t t 2

10 And

508 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

10 And Elijah answered and said to the Captain of fifty, If I be a Man of God, then let Fire come down from Heaven and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down Fire from Heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

11 Again also he sent unto him another Captain of fifty, with his fifty : and he answered and said unto him, O Man of God, thus hath the King said, Come down quickly.

12 And Elijah answered and said unto them, If I be a Man of God, let Fire come down from Heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And the Fire of God came down from Heaven, and consumed him and his fifty.

13 And he sent again a Captain of the third fifty, with his fifty : and the third Captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his Knees before Elijah, and besought him, and said unto him, O Man of God, I pray thee, let my Life, and the Life of these fifty thy Servants be precious in thy sight.

14 Behold, there came Fire down from Heaven, and burnt up the two Captains of the former fifties, with their fifties : therefore let my Life now be precious in thy sight.

15 And the Angel of the LORD said unto Elijah, Go down with him, be not afraid of him. And he rose, and went down with him unto the King.

16 And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast sent Messengers to enquire of Baalzebub the God of Ekron (is it not because there is no God in Israel to enquire of his Word?) therefore thou shalt not come down off the Bed on which thou art gone up, but shalt surely die.

17 So he died, according to the Word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken : and Jehoram reigned in his stead, in the second Year of Jehoram the Son of Jehoshaphat King of Judah ; because he had no Son.

C H A P. II.

1 *Elijah taking his leave of Elisha, with his Mantle divideth Jordan, 9 and granting Elisha his Request, is taken up by a fiery Chariot into Heaven. 12 Elisha dividing Jordan with Elijah's Mantle, is acknowledged his Successor. 16 The young Prophets hardly obtaining Leave to seek Elijah, could not find him. 19 Elisha with Salt healeth the unwholesome Waters. 23 Bears destroy the Children that mocked Elisha.*

Ver.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 509

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass when the LORD would take up Elijah into Heaven by a Whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

2 And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee : for the LORD hath sent me to Beth-el. And Elisha said unto him, As the LORD liveth, and as thy Soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Beth-el.

3 And the Sons of the Prophets that were at Beth-el came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy Master from thy Head To-day? And he said, Yea, I know it, hold you your peace.

4 And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee : for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy Soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho.

5 And the Sons of the Prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy Master from thy Head To-day? And he answered, Yea, I know it, hold you your Peace.

6 And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here : for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy Soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on.

7 And fifty Men of the Sons of the Prophets went, and stood to view afar off : and they two stood by Jordan.

8 And Elijah took his Mantle and wrapt it together, and smote the Waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry Ground.

9 And it came to pass when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double Portion of thy Spirit be upon me.

10 And he said, Thou hast asked a hard Thing : nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee ; but if not, it shall not be so.

11 And it came to pass as they still went on, and talked, that behold there appeared a Chariot of Fire, and Horses of Fire, and parted them both asunder, and Elijah went up by a Whirlwind into Heaven.

12 And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My Father, my Father, the Chariot of Israel, and the Horsemen thereof.

And

410 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

And he saw him no more : and he took hold of his own Cloaths, and rent them in two pieces.

13 He took up also the Mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the Bank of Jordan ;

14 And he took the Mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the Waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah ? and when he also had smitten the Waters, they parted hither and thither : and Elisha went over.

15 And when the Sons of the Prophets which were to view at Jericho, saw him, they said, The Spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the Ground before him.

16 And they said unto him, Behold now, there be with thy Servants fifty strong Men, let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy Master : lest peradventure the Spirit of the LORD hath taken him up, and cast him upon some Mountain, or into some Valley. And he said, Ye shall not send.

17 And when they urged him till he was ashamed, he said, Send. They sent therefore fifty Men ; and they sought three Days, but found him not.

18 And when they came again to him (for he tarried at Jericho) he said unto them, Did I not say unto you, Go not ?

19 And the Men of the City said unto Elisha, Behold, I pray thee, the Situation of this City is pleasant, as my Lord seeth : but the Water is naught, and the Ground barren.

20 And he said, Bring me a new Cruse, and put Salt therein. And they brought it to him.

21 And he went forth unto the Spring of the Waters, and cast the Salt in there, and said, Thus saith the LORD, I have healed these Waters ; there shall not be from thence any more Death, or barren Land.

22 So the Waters were healed unto this Day, according to the Saying of Elisha which he spake.

23 And he went up from thence unto Beth-el : and as he was going up by the Way, there came forth little Children out of the City, and mocked him, and said unto him, Go up thou Bald-head, go up thou Bald-head.

24 And he turned back, and looked on them, and cursed them in the Name of the LORD : and there came forth two She-bears out of the Wood, and tare forty and two Children of them.

25 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 511

25 And he went from thence to Mount Carmel, and from thence he returned to Samaria.

C H A P. III.

1 *Jehoram's Reign. 4 Mesha rebelleth. 6 Jehoram, with Jehoshaphat and the King of Edom, being distressed for want of Water, by Elisha obtaineth Water and Promise of Victory. 21 The Moabites deceived by the Colour of the Water, coming to spoil, are overcome. 26 The King of Moab, by sacrificing the King of Edom's Son, raiseth the Siege.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW Jehoram the Son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria, the eighteenth Year of Jehoshaphat King of Judah, and reigned twelve Years.

2 And he wrought Evil in the sight of the LORD, but not like his Father, and like his Mother; for he put away the Image of Baal that his Father had made.

3 Nevertheless, he cleaved unto the Sins of Jeroboam the Son of Nebat, which made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom.

4 And Mesha King of Moab was a Sheep-master, and rendred unto the King of Israel an hundred thousand Lambs, and an hundred thousand Rams, with the Wool.

5 But it came to pass when Ahab was dead, that the King of Moab rebelled against the King of Israel.

6 And King Jehoram went out of Samaria the same time, and numbred all Israel.

7 And he sent to Jehoshaphat the King of Judah, saying, The King of Moab hath rebelled against me: wilt thou go with me against Moab to Battle? And he said, I will go up: I am as thou art, my People as thy People, and my Horses as thy Horses.

8 And he said, Which Way shall we go up? And he answered, The Way through the Wilderness of Edom.

9 So the King of Israel went, and the King of Judah, and the King of Edom: and they fetched a Compass of seven Days Journey: and there was no Water for the Host, and for the Cattle that followed them.

10 And the King of Israel said, Alas, that the LORD hath called these three Kings together, to deliver them into the Hand of Moab.

11 But

512 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

11 But Jehoshaphat said, Is there not here a Prophet of the LORD, that we may enquire of the LORD by him? And one of the King of Israel's Servants answered and said, Here is Elifha the Son of Shaphat, which poured Water on the Hands of Elijah.

12 And Jehoshaphat said, The Word of the LORD is with him. So the King of Israel, and Jehoshaphat, and the King of Edom, went down to him.

13 And Elifha said unto the King of Israel, What have I to do with thee? get thee to the Prophets of thy Father, and to the Prophets of thy Mother. And the King of Israel said unto him, Nay: for the LORD hath called these three Kings together, to deliver them into the Hand of Moab.

14 And Elifha said, As the LORD of Hosts liveth, before whom I stand, surely were it not that I regard the Presence of Jehoshaphat the King of Judah, I would not look toward thee, nor see thee.

15 But now bring me a Minstrel. And it came to pass when the Minstrel played, that the Hand of the LORD came upon him.

16 And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Make this Valley full of Ditches.

17 For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see Wind, neither shall ye see Rain; yet that Valley shall be filled with Water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your Cattle, and your Beasts.

18 And this is but a light Thing in the sight of the LORD: he will deliver the Moabites also into your Hand.

19 And ye shall smite every fenced City, and every choice City, and shall fell every good Tree, and stop all Wells of Water, and marr every good piece of Land with Stones.

20 And it came to pass in the Morning when the Meat-offering was offered, that behold, there came Water by the way of Edom, and the Countrey was filled with Water.

21 And when all the Moabites heard that the Kings were come up to fight against them, they gathered all that were able to put on Armour, and stood in the Border.

22 And they rose up early in the Morning, and the Sun shone upon the Water, and the Moabites saw the Water on the other side as red as Blood:

23 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 513

23 And they said, This is Blood : the Kings are surely slain, and they have smitten one another : now therefore, Moab, to the Spoil.

24 And when they came to the Camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote the Moabites, so that they fled before them : but they went forward smiting the Moabites even in their Countrey.

25 And they beat down the Cities, and on every good piece of Land cast every Man his Stone, and filled it, and they stopp'd all the Wells of Water, and felled all the good Trees.

26 And when the King of Moab saw that the Battle was too sore for him, he took with him seven hundred Men that drew Swords, to break through even unto the King of Edom : but they could not.

27 Then he took his eldest Son, that should have reigned in his stead, and offered him for a Burnt-offering upon the Wall : and there was great Indignation against Israel : and they departed from him, and returned to their own Land.

C H A P. IV.

1 *Elifha multiplieth the Widow's Oyl : 8 He giveth a Son to the good Shunammite : 18 He raiseth again her dead Son : 38 At Gilgal he healeth the deadly Pottage : 42 He satisfieth an hundred Men with twenty Loaves.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW there cried a certain Woman of the Wives of the Sons of the Prophets unto Elifha, saying, Thy Servant my Husband is dead, and thou knowest that thy Servant did fear the LORD : and the Creditor is come to take unto him my two Sons to be Bondmen.

2 And Elifha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the House? And she said, Thine Handmaid hath not any thing in the House save a Pot of Oyl.

3 Then he said, Go borrow thee Vessels abroad of all thy Neighbours, even empty Vessels, borrow not a few.

4 And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the Door upon thee, and upon thy Sons, and shalt pour out into all those Vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

5 So she went from him, and shut the Door upon her, and upon her Sons; who brought the Vessels to her, and she poured out.

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6 And

514 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

6 And it came to pass when the Vessels were full, that she said unto her Son, Bring me yet a Vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a Vessel more. And the Oyl stayed.

7 Then she came and told the Man of God: and he said, Go, sell the Oyl, and pay thy Debt, and live thou and thy Children of the rest.

8 And it fell on a Day that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great Woman; and she constrained him to eat Bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat Bread.

9 And she said unto her Husband, Behold, now, I perceive that this is an holy Man of God, which passeth by us continually.

10 Let us make a little Chamber, I pray thee, on the Wall, and let us set for him there a Bed, and a Table, and a Stool, and a Candlestick: and it shall be when he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither.

11 And it fell on a Day that he came thither, and he turned into the Chamber, and lay there.

12 And he said to Gehazi his Servant, Call this Shunammite. And when he had called her, she stood before him.

13 And he said unto him, Say now unto her, Behold, thou hast been careful for us with all this Care; what is to be done for thee? wouldst thou be spoken for to the King, or to the Captain of the Host? And she answered, I dwell among mine own People.

14 And he said, What then is to be done for her? And Gehazi answered, Verily she hath no Child, and her Husband is old.

15 And he said, Call her. And when he had called her, she stood in the Door.

16 And he said, About this Season, according to the time of Life, thou shalt embrace a Son. And she said, Nay, my Lord, thou Man of God, do not lie unto thine Handmaid.

17 And the Woman conceived, and bare a Son at that Season that Elisha had said unto her, according to the time of Life.

18 And when the Child was grown, it fell on a Day, that he went out to his Father to the Reapers.

19 And he said unto his Father, My Head, my Head. And he said to a Lad, Carry him to his Mother.

20 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 517

20 And when he had taken him, and brought him to his Mother, he sat on her Knees till Noon, and then died.

21 And she went up, and laid him on the Bed of the Man of God, and shut the Door upon him, and went out.

22 And she called unto her Husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the young Men, and one of the Asses, that I may run to the Man of God, and come again.

23 And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him To-day? it is neither New-moon, nor Sabbath. And she said, It shall be well.

24 Then she saddled an Ass, and said to her Servant, Drive, and go forward; slack not thy riding for me, except I bid thee.

25 So she went, and came unto the Man of God to Mount Carmel: and it came to pass when the Man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his Servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunammite:

26 Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? is it well with thy Husband? is it well with the Child? And she answered, It is well.

27 And when she came to the Man of God to the Hill, she caught him by the Feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the Man of God said, Let her alone, for her Soul is vexed within her: and the Lord hath hid it from me, and hath not told me.

28 Then she said, Did I desire a Son of my Lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me?

29 Then he said to Gehazi, Gird up thy Loyns, and take my Staff in thine Hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any Man, salute him not; and if any salute thee, answer him not again: and lay my Staff upon the Face of the Child.

30 And the Mother of the Child said, As the Lord liveth, and as thy Soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And he arose and followed her.

31 And Gehazi passed on before them, and laid the Staff upon the Face of the Child, but there was neither Voice nor hearing: wherefore he went again to meet him, and told him, saying, The Child is not awaked.

32 And when Elisha was come into the House, behold, the Child was dead, and laid upon his Bed.

33 He went in therefore, and shut the Door upon them twain, and prayed unto the Lord.

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34 And

516 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

34 And he went up, and lay upon the Child, and put his Mouth upon his Mouth, and his Eyes upon his Eyes, and his Hands upon his Hands, and he stretched himself upon the Child, and the Flesh of the Child waxed warm.

35 Then he returned and walked in the House to and fro, and went up, and stretched himself upon him : and the Child needed seven times, and the Child opened his Eyes.

36 And he called Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. So he called her : and when she was come in unto him, he said, Take up thy Son.

37 Then she went in, and fell at his Feet, and bowed herself to the Ground, and took up her Son, and went out.

38 And Elisha came again to Gilgal, and there was a Dearth in the Land, and the Sons of the Prophets were sitting before him : and he said unto his Servant, Set on the great Pot, and see the Pottage for the Sons of the Prophets.

39 And one went out into the Field to gather Herbs, and found a wild Vine, and gathered thereof wild Gourds his Lapful, and came and shred them into the Pot of Pottage : for they knew them not.

40 So they poured out for the Men to eat : and it came to pass as they were eating of the Pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou Man of God, there is Death in the Pot : and they could not eat thereof.

41 But he said, Then bring Meal : and he cast it into the Pot ; and he said, Pour out for the People, that they may eat : and there was no Harm in the Pot.

42 And there came a Man from Baal-shalisha, and brought the Man of God Bread of the First-fruits, twenty Loaves of Barley, and full Ears of Corn in the Husk thereof : and he said, Give unto the People, that they may eat.

43 And his Servitor said, What should I set this before an hundred Men ? He said again, Give the People, that they may eat : for thus saith the LORD, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof.

44 So he set it before them, and they did eat, and left thereof according to the Word of the LORD.

CH A P. V.

1 *Naaman by the Report of a Captive Maid, is sent to Samaria to be cured of his Leprosy.* 8 *Elisha sending him to Jordan, cureth him :* 15 *He refusing Naaman's Gifts, granteth him*

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 517

him some of the Earth. 20 Gehazi abusing his Master's Name unto Naaman, is smitten with Leprosy.

Ver. 1 **N**OW ¹ Naaman ¹ Luke iv. 27 And many LEPROS were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the Prophet : and none of them was cleansed, saving NAAMAN the SYRIAN. Captain of the Host of the King of Syria, was a great Man with his Master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had given Deliverance unto Syria : he was also a mighty Man in Valour, but he was a LEPER.

2 And the Syrians had gone out by Companies, and had brought away Captive out of the Land of Israel, a little Maid, and she waited on Naaman's Wife.

3 And she said unto her Mistrefs, Would GOD my Lord were with the Prophet that is in Samaria : for he would recover him of his Leprosy.

4 And one went in, and told his Lord, saying, Thus and thus said the Maid that is of the Land of Israel.

5 And the King of Syria said, Go, and I will send a Letter unto the King of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten Talents of Silver, and six thousand pieces of Gold, and ten Changes of Raiment.

6 And he brought the Letter to the King of Israel, saying, Now when this Letter is come unto thee, behold, I have therewith sent Naaman my Servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his Leprosy.

7 And it came to pass when the King of Israel had read the Letter, that he rent his Cloaths, and said, Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this Man doth send unto me to recover a Man of his Leprosy? wherefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeketh a Quarrel against me.

8 And when Elisha heard that the King of Israel had rent his Cloaths, he sent to the King, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy Cloaths? let him come now to me, and he shall know, that there is a PROPHET in Israel.

9 So Naaman came with his Horses, and with his Chariot, and stood at the Door of the House of Elisha.

10 And Elisha sent a Messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy Flesh shall come again unto thee, and thou shalt be clean.

11 But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand,

518 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

stand, and call on the Name of the LORD his GOD, and strike his Hand over the Place, and recover the Leper.

12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, Rivers of Damascus, better than all the Waters of Israel? may I not wash in them and be clean? So he turned, and went away in a Rage.

13 And his Servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My Father, If the Prophet had bid thee do some great Thing, wouldst thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash and be clean?

14 Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the Saying of the Man of GOD: and his Flesh came again like unto the Flesh of a little Child, and he was clean.

15 And he returned to the Man of GOD, he and all his Company, and came and stood before him: and he said, Behold now I know that there is no GOD in all the Earth, but in Israel: now therefore, I pray thee, take a Blessing of thy Servant.

16 But he said, As the LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged him to take it, but he refused.

17 And Naaman said, Shall there not then, I pray thee, be given to thy Servant two Mules Burden of Earth? for thy Servant will henceforth offer neither Burnt-offering, nor Sacrifice unto other Gods, but unto the LORD.

18 In this Thing the LORD pardon thy Servant, that when my Master goeth into the House of Rimmon to worship there, and he leaneth on my Hand, and I bow myself in the House of Rimmon: when I bow down myself in the House of Rimmon, the LORD pardon thy Servant in this Thing.

19 And he said unto him, Go in Peace. So he departed from him a little way.

20 But Gehazi the Servant of Elisha the Man of GOD, said, Behold, my Master hath spared Naaman this Syrian, in not receiving at his Hands that which he brought: but as the LORD liveth, I will run after him, and take somewhat of him.

21 So Gehazi followed after Naaman: and when Naaman saw him running after him, he lighted down from the Chariot to meet him, and said, Is all well?

22 And he said, All is well: my Master hath sent me, saying, Behold, even now there be come to me from Mount Ephraim

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 519

Ephraim two young Men of the Sons of the Prophets : give them, I pray thee, a Talent of Silver, and two Changes of Garments.

23 And Naaman said, Be content, take two Talents. And he urged him, and bound two Talents of Silver in two Bags, with two Changes of Garments, and laid them upon two of his Servants, and they bare them before him.

24 And when he came to the Tower, he took them from their Hand, and bestowed them in the House; and he let the Men go, and they departed.

25 But he went in, and stood before his Master : And Elisha said unto him, Whence comest thou, Gehazi? And he said, Thy Servant went no whither.

26 And he said unto him, Went not mine Heart with thee, when the Man turned again from his Chariot to meet thee? is it a Time to receive Money, and to receive Garments, and Olive-yards, and Vineyards, and Sheep, and Oxen, and Men-servants, and Maid-servants?

27 The Leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy Seed for ever. And he went out from his Presence a Leper as white as Snow.

C H A P. VI.

1 *Elisha giving Leave to the young Prophets to enlarge their Dwellings, causeth Iron to swim : 8 He discloseth the King of Syria's Counsel. 13 The Army which was sent to Dothan to apprehend Elisha, is smitten with Blindness : 19 Being brought into Samaria, they are dismissed in Peace. 24 The Famine in Samaria causeth Women to eat their own Children. 30 The King sendeth to slay Elisha.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the Sons of the Prophets said unto Elisha, Behold now, the Place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us.

2 Let us go, we pray thee, unto Jordan, and take thence every Man a Beam, and let us make us a Place there where we may dwell. And he answered, Go ye.

3 And one said, Be content, I pray thee, and go with thy Servants. And he answered, I will go.

4 So he went with them. And when they came to Jordan, they cut down Wood.

5 But as one was felling a Beam, the Ax-head fell into the

520 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

the Water : and he cried, and said, Alas Master, for it was borrowed.

6 And the Man of God said, Where fell it? And he shewed him the Place. And he cut down a Stick, and cast it in thither, and the Iron did swim.

7 Therefore said he, Take it up to thee. And he put out his Hand, and took it.

8 Then the King of Syria warred against Israel, and took Counsel with his Servants, saying, In such and such a Place shall be my Camp.

9 And the Man of God sent unto the King of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a Place ; for thither the Syrians are come down.

10 And the King of Israel sent to the Place which the Man of God told him, and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice.

11 Therefore the Heart of the King of Syria was sore troubled for this Thing, and he called his Servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the King of Israel?

12 And one of his Servants said, None, my Lord, O King : but Elisha the Prophet, that is in Israel, TELLETH the King of Israel the Words that thou speakest in thy Bed-chamber.

13 And he said, Go, and spy where he is that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold he is in Dothan.

14 Therefore sent he thither Horses, and Chariots, and a great Host : and they came by Night, and compassed the City about.

15 And when the Servant of the Man of God was risen early and gone forth, behold, an Host compassed the City, both with Horses, and Chariots : and his Servant said unto him, Alas, my Master, how shall we do?

16 And he answered, Fear not : for they that be with us, are more than they that be with them.

17 ^k And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his Eyes that he may see. And the LORD opened the Eyes of the young Man, and he saw : and behold, the Mountain was full of Horses, and Chariots of FIRE round about ELISHA.

^k Heb. i. 7 And of the Angels he saith, Who maketh his ANGELS SPIRITS, and his MINISTERS a Flame of FIRE.

14 Are they not all MINISTERING SPIRITS, sent forth to minister for them who shall be HEIRS of SALVATION?

18 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 521

18 And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this People, I pray thee, with Blindness. And he smote them with Blindness, according to the Word of Elisha.

19 And Elisha said unto them, This is not the Way, neither is this the City : follow me, and I will bring you to the Man whom ye seek. But he led them to Samaria.

20 And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, LORD, open the Eyes of these Men that they may see. And the LORD opened their Eyes, and they saw, and behold, they were in the mids of Samaria.

21 And the King of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My Father, shall I smite them? shall I smite them?

22 And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them : wouldst thou smite those whom thou hast taken Captive with thy Sword, and with thy Bow? set Bread and Water before them that they may eat and drink, and go to their Master.

23 And he prepared great Provision for them : and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their Master. So the Bands of Syria came no more into the Land of Israel.

24 And it came to pass after this, that Benhadad King of Syria gathered all his Host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.

25 And there was a great Famine in Samaria : and behold, they besieged it, until an Ass's Head was sold for fourscore pieces of Silver, and the Fourth part of a Cab of Doves Dung for five pieces of Silver.

26 And as the King of Israel was passing by upon the Wall, there tried a Woman unto him, saying, Help, my Lord, O King.

27 And he said, If the LORD do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the Barn-floor, or out of the Wine-press?

28 And the King said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, This Woman said unto me, Give thy Son, that we may eat him To-day, and we will eat my Son Tomorrow.

29 So we boiled my Son, and did eat him : and I said unto her on the next Day, Give thy Son, that we may eat him : and she hath hid her Son.

30 And it came to pass when the King heard the Words of the Woman, that he rent his Cloaths, and he passed by

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522 *KINGS and CHRONICLES:*

upon the Wall, and the People looked, and behold, he had Sackcloth within upon his Flesh.

31 Then he said, GOD do so and more also to me, if the Head of Elisha the Son of Shaphat shall stand on him this Day.

32 But Elisha sat in his House, (and the Elders sat with him) and the King sent a Man from before him: but ere the Messenger came to him, he said to the Elders, See ye how this Son of a Murderer hath sent to take away mine Head? look when the Messenger cometh, shut the Door, and hold him fast at the Door: is not the Sound of his Master's Feet behind him?

33 And while he yet talked with them, behold the Messenger came down unto him: and he said, Behold, this Evil is of the LORD, what should I wait for the LORD any longer?

C H A P. VII.

1 *Elisha prophesieth incredible Plenty in Samaria.* 3 *Four Lepers venturing on the Host of the Syrians, bring Tidings of their Flight.* 12 *The King finding by Spies the News to be true, spoileth the Tents of the Syrians.* 17 *The Lord who would not believe the Prophecy of Plenty, having the Charge of the Gate is troden to Death in the Press.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN Elisha said, Hear ye the Word of the LORD, Thus saith the LORD, To-morrow about this time, shall a Measure of fine Flour be sold for a Shekel, and two Measures of Barley for a Shekel, in the Gate of Samaria.

2 Then a Lord on whose Hand the King leaned, answered the Man of GOD, and said, Behold, if the LORD would make Windows in Heaven, might this Thing be? And he said, Behold, Thou shalt see it with thine Eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.

3 And there were four leprous Men at the entring in of the Gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die?

4 If we say we will enter into the City, then the Famine is in the City, and we shall die there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the Host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.

5 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 523

5 And they rose up in the Twilight to go unto the Camp of the Syrians : and when they were come to the uttermost Part of the Camp of Syria, behold, there was no Man there.

6 For the LORD had made the Host of the Syrians to hear a Noise of Chariots, and a Noise of Horses, even the Noise of a great Host : and they said one to another, Lo, the King of Israel hath hired against us the Kings of the Hittites, and the Kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us.

7 Wherefore they arose and fled in the Twilight, and left their Tents, even the Camp as it was, and fled for their Lives.

8 And when these Lepers came to the uttermost Part of the Camp, they went into one Tent, and did eat, and drink, and carried thence Silver, and Gold, and Raiment, and went and hid it; and came again, and entred into another Tent, and carried thence also, and went and hid it.

9 Then they said one to another, We do not well : this Day is a DAY of GOOD TIDINGS, and we hold our Peace : If we tarry till the Morning Light, some Mischief will come upon us : now therefore come, that we may go and tell the King's Household.

10 So they came and called unto the Porter of the City : and they told them, saying, We came to the Camp of the Syrians, and behold there was no Man there, but Horses and Asses tied, and the Tents as they were.

11 And he called the Porters, and they told it to the King's House within.

12 And the King arose in the Night, and said unto his Servants, I will now shew you what the SYRIANS have done to us : they know that we be hungry, therefore are they gone out of the Camp, to hide themselves in the Field, saying, When they come out of the City, we shall catch them alive, and get into the City.

13 And one of his Servants answered and said, Let some take; I pray thee, five of the Horses that remain, which are left in the City : (behold, I say, they are even as all the multitude of the Israelites that are consumed) and let us send and see.

14 They took therefore two Chariot-horses, and the King sent after the Host of the Syrians.

15 And they went after them unto Jordan, and lo, all

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524 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

- the Way was full of Garments, and Vessels, which the Syrians had cast away in their Haste : and the Messengers returned and told the King.

16 And the People went out, and spoiled the Tents of the Syrians. So a Measure of FINE FLOUR was sold for a Shekel, and two Measures of Barley for a Shekel, ACCORDING to the WORD of the LORD.

17 And the King appointed the Lord on whose Hand he leaned, to have the Charge of the Gate : and the People trode upon him in the Gate, and he died, as the MAN of GOD had SAID, who spake when the King came down to him.

18 And it came to pass as the Man of GOD had spoken unto the King, saying, Two Measures of Barley for a Shekel, and a Measure of fine Flour for a Shekel, shall be Tomorrow about this time in the Gate of Samaria :

19 And that Lord answered the MAN of GOD and said, Now behold, if the LORD should make Windows in Heaven, might such a Thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine Eyes, but shalt NOT EAT thereof.

20 And so it FELL OUT unto him : for the People trod upon him in the Gate, and he DIED.

C H A P. VIII.

- 1 *The Shunammite having left her Countrey seven Years to avoid the forewarned Famine, for Elisha's Miracle's Sake bath her Land restored by the King. 7 Hazael being sent with a Present by Benhadad to Elisha at Damascus, after he had heard the Prophecy, killeth his Master, and succeedeth him. 16 Jehoram's wicked Reign in Judah. 20 Edom and Libnah revolt. 23 Ahaziah succeedeth Jehoram. 25 Ahaziah's wicked Reign. 28 He visiteth Jehoram wounded at Jezreel.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN spake Elisha unto the Woman (whose Son he had restored to Life) saying, Arise, and go thou and thy Household, and sojourn wheresoever thou canst sojourn : for the LORD hath called for a FAMINE, and it shall also come upon the Land seven Years.

2 And the Woman arose, and did after the Saying of the Man of GOD : and she went with her Household, and sojourned in the Land of the Philistines seven Years.

3 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 515

3 And it came to pass at the seven Years End, *that the Woman returned out of the Land of the Philistines : and she went forth to cry unto the King for her House, and for her Land.

4 And the King talked with Gehazi the Servant of the Man of God, saying, Tell me, I pray thee, all the GREAT THINGS that ELISHA hath done.

5 And it came to pass as he was telling the King how he had restored a DEAD BODY TO LIFE, that behold, the Woman whose SON he had RESTORED TO LIFE, cried to the King for her House, and for her Land, and Gehazi said, My Lord, O King, this is the Woman, and this is her SON, whom Elisha RESTORED TO LIFE.

6 And when the King asked the Woman, she told him. So the King appointed unto her a certain Officer, saying, Restore all that was hers, and all the Fruits of the Field, since the Day that she left the Land, even until now.

7 And ELISHA came to Damascus ; and Benhadad the King of Syria was sick, and it was told him, saying, The Man of God is come hither.

8 And the King said unto HAZAEL, Take a Present in thine Hand, and go meet the MAN of GOD, and enquire of the LORD by him, saying, shall I recover of this Disease ?

9 So Hazael went to meet him, and took a Present with him, even of every good Thing of Damascus, forty Camels Burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Thy Son Benhadad King of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover of this Disease ?

10 And Elisha said unto him, Go, say unto him, Thou mayest certainly recover : howbeit the LORD hath shewed me, that he shall SURELY DIE.

11 And he settled his Countenance stedfastly, until he was ashamed : and the Man of GOD WEPT.

12 And Hazael said, Why weepeth my Lord ? And he answered, Because I know the Evil that thou wilt do unto the Children of Israel : their strong Holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young Men wilt thou slay with the Sword, and wilt dash their Children, and rip up their Women with Child.

13 And Hazael said, But what, is thy Servant a Dog that he should do this great Thing ? And Elisha answered, The LORD hath shewed me that thou shalt be King over Syria.

526 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

14 So he departed from Elisha, and came to his Master, who said to him, What said Elisha to thee? and he answered, He told me that thou shouldst surely recover.

15 And it came to pass on the Morrow, that he took a thick Cloth, and dipt it in Water, and spread it on his Face, so that he died : and Hazael reigned in his stead.

II. C H R O N. C H A P. XXI.

1 *Jehoram succeeding Jehoshaphat, slayeth his Brethren : 5 His wicked Reign. 8 Edom and Libnah revolt. 12 The Prophecy of Elijah against him in Writing. 16 Philistines and Arabians oppress him : 18 His incurable Disease, infamous Death, and Burial.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW Jehoshaphat slept with his Fathers, and was buried with his Fathers in the City of David : and Jehoram his Son reigned in his stead.

2 And he had Brethren the Sons of Jehoshaphat, Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah : all these were the Sons of Jehoshaphat King of Israel.

3 And their Father gave them great Gifts of Silver and of Gold, and of precious Things, with fenced Cities in Judah : but the Kingdom gave he to Jehoram, because he was the First-born.

4 Now when Jehoram was risen up to the Kingdom of his Father, he strengthened himself, and slew all his Brethren with the Sword, and divers also of the Princes of Israel.

5 Jehoram was thirty and two Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eight Years in Jerusalem.

6 And he walked in the WAY of the Kings of ISRAEL, like as did the House of AHAB : for he had the Daughter of AHAB to Wife : and he wrought that which was evil in the Eyes of the LORD.

7 Howbeit, the LORD would not DESTROY the HOUSE of DAVID, because of the COVENANT that he had made with David, and as he PROMISED to give a LIGHT to him, and to his Sons for ever.

8 In his Days the Edomites revolted from under the Dominion of Judah, and made themselves a King.

9 Then Jehoram went forth with his Princes, and all his Chariots with him : and he rose up by Night, and smote the
the

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 527.

Edomites which compassed him in, and the Captains of the Chariots.

10 So the Edomites revolted from under the Hand of Judah unto this Day. The same time also did Libnah revolt from under his Hand; because he had FORSAKEN the LORD GOD of his Fathers.

11 Moreover, he made high Places in the Mountains of Judah, and caused the Inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit Fornication, and compelled Judah thereto.

12 And there came a WRITING to him from ELIJAH the Prophet, saying, Thus saith the LORD GOD of David thy Father, Because thou hast not WALKED in the WAYS of Jehoshaphat thy Father, nor in the WAYS of Asa King of Judah,

13 But hast walked in the Way of the KINGS of ISRAEL, and hast made Judah and the Inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a WHORING, like to the WHOREDOMS of the House of AHAB, and also hast slain thy Brethren of thy Father's House, which were BETTER than thyself:

14 Behold, with a great PLAGUE will the LORD smite thy People, and thy Children, and thy Wives, and all thy Goods.

15 And thou shalt have great SICKNESS, by Disease of thy Bowels, until thy Bowels fall out by reason of the Sickness Day by Day.

16 Moreover, the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the Spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians, that were near the Ethiopians.

17 And they came up into Judah, and brake into it, and carried away all the Substance that was found in the King's House, and his Sons also and his Wives; so that there was never a Son left him, save Jehoahaz the youngest of his Sons.

18 And after all this, the LORD SMOTE him in his Bowels with an INCURABLE DISEASE.

19 And it came to pass that in process of Time; after the End of two Years, his BOWELS fell out by reason of his Sickness: so he died of sore Diseases: And his People made no Burning for him, like the Burning of his Fathers.

20 Thirty and two Years old was he when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight Years, and departed without being DESIRED: howbeit they buried him in the City of David, but not in the Sepulchres of the Kings.

II. *KINGS,*

528 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

II. *KINGS*, CHAP. IX.

1 Elisha sendeth a young Prophet with Instructions to anoint Jehu at Ramoth-gilead. 4 The Prophet having done his Message, fleeth. 11 Jehu being made King by the Soldiers, killeth Jeram in the Field of Naboth. 27 Ahaziah is slain at Gur, and buried at Jerusalem. 30 Proud Jezebel is thrown down out of a Window, and eaten by Dogs.

Ver. 1 **A**ND Elisha the Prophet called one of the Children of the Prophets, and said unto him, Gird up thy Loins, and take this Box of Oil in thine Hand, and go to Ramoth-gilead.

2 And when thou comest thither, look out there Jehu the Son of Jehoshaphat, the Son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his Brethren, and carry him to an inner Chamber.

3 Then take the Box of Oil, and pour it on his Head, and say, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee King over Israel: then open the Door, and flee, and tarry not.

4 So the young Man, the Prophet, went to Ramoth-gilead.

5 And when he came, behold, the Captains of the Host were sitting; and he said, I have an Errand to thee, O Captain. And JEHU said, Unto which of all us? And he said, To thee, O Captain.

6 And he arose, and went into the House, and he poured the OIL on his Head, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, I have ANOINTED thee King over the People of the LORD, even over Israel.

7 And thou shalt smite the House of AHAB thy Master, that I may AVENGE the BLOOD of my Servants the Prophets, and the Blood of all the Servants of the LORD at the Hand of Jezebel.

8 For the whole HOUSE of AHAB shall perish.

9 And I will make the House of Ahab like the House of Jeroboam, the Son of Nebat, and like the House of Baasha the Son of Ahijah.

10 And the Dogs shall eat Jezebel in the Portion of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her. And he opened the Door, and fled.

11 Then Jehu came forth to the Servants of his LORD,
and

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 529

and one said unto him, Is all well? wherefore came this mad Fellow to thee? And he said unto them, Ye know the Man, and his Communication.

12 And they said, It is false, tell us now, and he said, Thus and thus spake he to me, saying, Thus SAITH the LORD, I have ANOINTED thee KING over Israel.

13 Then they hasted, and took every Man his Garment, and put it under him on the top of the Stairs, and blew with Trumpets, saying, Jehu is King.

14 So Jehu conspired against Joram: (Now Joram had kept Ramoth-gilead, he and all Israel, because of Hazael King of Syria.

15 But King Joram was returned to be healed in Jezreel, of the Wounds which the Syrians had given him, when he fought with Hazael King of Syria.) And Jehu said, If it be your Minds, then let none go forth, nor escape out of the City, to go to tell it in Jezreel.

16 So Jehu rode in a Chariot, and went to Jezreel (for Joram lay there) and Ahaziah King of Judah was come down to see Joram.

17 And there stood a Watchman on the Tower in Jezreel, and he spied the Company of Jehu as he came, and said, I see a Company. And Joram said, Take an Horseman, and send to meet them, and let him say, Is it PEACE?

18 So there went one on Horseback to meet him, and said, Thus saith the King, Is it PEACE? And Jehu said, What hast thou to do with PEACE? turn thee behind me. And the Watchman told, saying, The Messenger came to them, but he cometh not again.

19 Then he sent out a second on Horseback, which came to them, and said, Thus saith the King, Is it PEACE? And Jehu answered, What hast thou to do with PEACE? turn thee behind me.

20 And the Watchman told, saying, He came even unto them, and cometh not again: and the Driving is like the Driving of Jehu; for he driveth furiously.

21 And Joram said, Make ready. And his Chariot was made ready. And Joram King of Israel, and Ahaziah King of Judah went out each in his Chariot, and they went out against Jehu, and met him in the Portion of NABOTH.

22 And it came to pass when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, Is it PEACE, Jehu? And he answered, WHAT PEACE,

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530 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

so long as the WHOREDOMS of thy Mother JEZEBEL, and her WITCHCRAFTS are so many?

23 And Joram turned his Hands and fled, and said to Ahaziah, There is Treachery, O Ahaziah.

24 And Jehu drew a Bow with his full Strength, and smote Jehoram between his Arms, and the Arrow went out at his Heart, and he sunk down in his Chariot.

25 Then said Jehu to Bidkar his Captain, Take up, and cast him in the Portion of the Field of NABOTH the Jezreelite : for remember, how that when I and thou rode together after Ahab his Father, the LORD LAID this Burden upon him.

26 Surely I have seen Yesterday the Blood of Naboth, and the Blood of his Sons, said the LORD, and I will RE-QUITE thee in this PLAT, saith the LORD. Now therefore take and cast him into the Plat of Ground, according to the WORD of the LORD.

27 But when Ahaziah the King of Judah saw this, he fled by the way of the Garden-house, and Jehu followed after him, and said, Smite him also in the Chariot : And they did so, at the going up to Gur, which is by Ibleam : and he fled to Megiddo, and died there.

28 And his Servants carried him in a Chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his Sepulchre with his Fathers in the City of David.

29 And in the eleventh Year of Joram the Son of Ahab, began Ahaziah to reign over Judah.

30 And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it, and she painted her Face, and tired her Head, and looked out at a Window.

31 And as Jehu entred in at the Gate, she said, Had Zimri Peace, who slew his Master?

32 And he lift up his Face to the Window, and said, Who is on my side, who? And there looked out to him two or three Eunuchs.

33 And he said, Throw her down. So they threw her down ; and some of her Blood was sprinkled on the Wall, and on the Horses : and he trode her under foot.

34 And when he was come in, he did eat and drink, and said, Go see now this CURSED WOMAN, and bury her : for she is a King's Daughter.

35 And they went to bury her, but they found no more
of

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 431

of her than the SCULL, and the FEET, and the PALMS of her HANDS.

36 Wherefore they came again, and told him: and he said, This is the WORD of the LORD, which he SPAKE by his Servant ELIJAH the TISHBITE, saying, In the Portion of Jezreel shall Dogs eat the Flesh of Jezebel:

37 And the Carcase of Jezebel shall be as Dung upon the Face of the Field, in the Portion of Jezreel, so that they shall not say, This is Jezebel.

C H A P. X.

1 Jehu by his Letters causeth seventy of Ahab's Children to be beheaded. 8 He excuseth the Fall by the Prophecy of Elijah. 12 At the Shearing-house he slayeth two and forty of Ahaziah's Brethren: 15 He taketh Jehonadab into his Company: 18 By Subtilty he destroyeth all the Worshippers of Baal. 29 Jehu followeth Jeroboam's Sins. 32 Hazael oppresseth Israel. 34 Jehoahaz succeedeth him.

Ver. 1 **A**ND Ahab had seventy Sons in Samaria: and Jehu wrote Letters, and sent to Samaria, unto the Rulers of Jezreel, to the Elders, and to them that brought up Ahab's Children, saying,

2 Now assoon as this Letter cometh to you, seeing your Master's Sons are with you, and there are with you Chariots and Horses, a fenced City also, and Armour:

3 Look out the MEETEST of your Master's Sons, and set him on his Father's Throne, and fight for your Master's House.

4 But they were exceedingly AFRAID, and said, Behold, two Kings stood not before him: how then shall we stand?

5 And he that was over the House, and he that was over the City, the Elders also, and the Bringers up of the Children sent to Jehu, saying, We are thy Servants, and will do all that thou shalt bid us; we will not make any King: do thou that which is good in thine Eyes.

6 Then he wrote a Letter the second time to them, saying, If ye be mine, and if you will hearken unto my Voice, take ye the Heads of the Men your Master's Sons, and come to me to Jezreel by To-morrow this time: (now the King's Sons being seventy Persons, were with the Great Men of the City which brought them up)

7 And it came to pass when the Letter came to them,

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537 *KINGS and CHRONICLES*

that they took the King's Sons, and slew **SEVENTY** Persons, and put their Heads in Baskets, and sent him them to Jezreel.

8 And there came a Messenger, and told him, saying, They have brought the Heads of the King's Sons. And he said, Lay ye them in two Heaps at the entering in of the Gate, until the Morning.

9 And it came to pass in the Morning, that he went out, and stood, and said to all the People, Ye be righteous: behold, I conspired against my Master, and slew him: but who slew all these?

10 Know now, that there shall fall unto the Earth **NOTHING** of the **WORD** of the **LORD**, which the **LORD** spake concerning the House of Ahab: for the **LORD** hath done that which he spake by his Servant Elijah.

11 So Jehu slew all that remained of the House of Ahab in Jezreel, and all his Great Men, and his Kinsfolks, and his Priests, until he left him none remaining.

12 And he arose and departed, and came to Samaria. And as he was at the Shearing-house in the Way,

13 Jehu met with the Brethren of Ahaziah King of Judah, and said, Who are ye? And they answered, We are the Brethren of Ahaziah, and we go down to salute the Children of the King, and the Children of the Queen.

14 And he said, take them alive. And they took them alive, and slew them at the Pit of the Shearing-house, even two and forty Men; neither left he any of them.

15 And when he was departed thence, he lighted on Jehonadab the Son of Rechab, coming to meet him, and he saluted him, and said to him, Is thine **HEART RIGHT**, as my **HEART** is with thy **HEART**? And Jehonadab answered, It is. If it be, give me thine Hand: And he gave him his Hand, and he took him up to him into the Chariot.

16 And he said, Come with me, and see my Zeal for the **LORD**, so they made him ride in his Chariot.

17 And when he came to Samaria, he slew all that remained unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him according to the Saying of the **LORD**, which he spake to Elijah.

18 And Jehu gathered all the People together, and said unto them, Ahab served Baal a little, but Jehu shall serve him much.

19 Now

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 533

19 Now therefore call unto me all the Prophets of Baal, all his Servants, and all his Priests, let none be wanting : for I have a great Sacrifice to do to Baal ; whosoever shall be wanting, he shall not live. But Jehu did it in **SUBTILTY**, to the Intent that he might destroy the Worshippers of Baal.

20 And Jehu said, Proclaim a solemn Assembly for Baal. And they proclaimed it.

21 And Jehu sent through all Israel, and all the Worshippers of Baal came, so that there was not a Man left that came not : and they came into the House of Baal, and the House of Baal was full from one End to another.

22 And he said unto him that was over the Vestry, Bring forth Vestments for all the Worshippers of Baal. And he brought them forth Vestments.

23 And Jehu went, and Jehonadab into the House of Baal, and said unto the Worshippers of Baal, Search, and look that there be here with you none of the Servants of the **LORD**, but the Worshippers of Baal only.

24 And when they went in to offer Sacrifices and Burnt-offerings, Jehu appointed fourscore Men without, and said, If any of the Men whom I have brought into your Hands escape, he that letteth him go, his **LIFE** shall be for the **LIFE** of him.

25 And it came to pass as soon as he had made an end of offering the Burnt-offering, that Jehu said to the Guard, and to the Captains, Go in and slay them, let none come forth. And they smote them with the Edge of the Sword, and the Guard, and the Captains cast them out, and went to the City of the House of Baal.

26 And they brought forth the Images out of the House of Baal, and burnt them.

27 And they brake down the House of Baal, and made it a Draught-house.

28 Thus Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel.

29 Howbeit, from the Sins of Jeroboam, who made Israel to sin, Jehu departed not from after them, to wit, the golden Calves that were in Beth-el, and that were in Dan.

30 And the **LORD** said unto Jehu, Because thou hast done well in executing that which is right in mine Eyes, and hast done unto the House of Ahab according to all that was in mine Heart, thy Children of the fourth Generation shall sit on the Throne of Israel.

31 But

334 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

31 But Jehu took no HEED to WALK in the LAW of the LORD GOD of Israel, with all his HEART : for he departed not from the Sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin.

32 In those Days the LORD began to cut Israel SHORT : and Hazael smote them in all the Coasts of Israel.

33 From Jordan East-ward, all the Land of Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites.

34 Now the rest of the Acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his Might, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel ?

35 And Jehu slept with his Fathers, and they buried him in Samaria, and Jehoahaz his Son reigned in his stead.

36 And the Time that Jehu reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty and eight Years.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XXII.

1 *Abaziah succeeding, reigneth wickedly : 5 In his Confederacy with Jeram the Son of Abab, he is slain by Jehu. 10 Athaliah destroying all the Seed royal save Joash, whom Jehoshabeath his Aunt hid, usurpeth the Kingdom.*

Ver. 1 **A**HAZIAH the Son of Jehoram reigned over Judah.

2 Forty and two Years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign, and he reigned one Year in Jerusalem : his Mother's Name also was Athaliah the Daughter of Omri.

3 He also walked in the WAYS of the House of Ahab : for his Mother was his COUNSELLER to do WICKEDLY.

4 Wherefore he did Evil in the sight of the LORD, like the House of Ahab : for they were his COUNSELLERS after the Death of his Father, to his DESTRUCTION.

5 He walked also after their Counsel, and went with Jehoram the Son of Ahab King of Israel, to war against Hazael King of Syria at Ramoth-gilead : and the Syrians smote Joram.

6 And he returned to be healed in Jezreel, because of the Wounds which were given him at Ramah, when he fought with Hazael King of Syria. And Azariah the Son of Jehoram King of Judah went down to see Jehoram the Son of Ahab at Jezreel, because he was sick.

7 And the Destruction of Ahaziah was of GOD by coming
to

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 535

to Joram : for when he was come, he went out with Jehoram against Jehu the Son of Nimshi, whom the LORD had anointed to cut off the House of Ahab.

8 And it came to pass that when Jehu was executing Judgment upon the House of Ahab, and found the Princes of Judah, and the Sons of the Brethren of Ahaziah that ministered to Ahaziah, he slew them.

9 And he sought Ahaziah : and they caught him (for he was hid in Samaria) and brought him to Jehu : and when they had slain him, they buried him, because (said they) he is the Son of Jehoshaphat, who sought the LORD with all his HEART. So the House of Ahaziah had no Power to keep still the Kingdom.

10 But when Athaliah the Mother of Ahaziah saw that her Son was dead, she arose, and destroyed all the Seed royal of the House of Judah.

11 But Jehoshabeath the Daughter of the King took JOASH the Son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the King's Sons that were slain, and put him and his Nurse in a Bed-chamber, and hid him from Athaliah, so that he slew him not.

12 And he was with them hid in the House of God six Years, and Athaliah reigned over the Land.

II. KINGS, CHAP. XI.

1 Jehoash being saved by Jehosheba his Aunt from Athaliah's Massacre of the Seed royal, is hid six Years in the House of God. 4 Jehoiada giving Order to the Captains, in the seventh Year anointeth him King. 13 Athaliah is slain. 17 Jehoiada restoreth the Worship of God.

Ver. 1 **A**ND when Athaliah the Mother of Ahaziah saw that her Son was dead, she destroyed all the Seed royal.

2 But Jehosheba the Daughter of King Joram, Sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the Son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the King's Sons which were slain ; and they hid him, and his Nurse in the Bed-chamber from Athaliah, so that he was not slain.

3 And he was there with her hid in the House of the LORD, six Years : and Athaliah did reign over the Land.

• 4 And the seventh Year Jehoiada sent and fet the Rulers

536 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

lers over Hundreds, with the Captains, and the Guard, and brought them to him into the House of the LORD, and made a Covenant with them, and took an Oath of them in the House of the LORD, and shewed them the King's Son.

5 And he commanded them, saying, This is the Thing that ye shall do: A third part of you that enter in on the Sabbath, shall even be Keepers of the Watch of the King's House:

6 And a third part shall be at the Gate of Sur: and a third part at the Gate behind the Guard: so shall ye keep the Watch of the House that it be not broken down.

7 And two parts of all you, that go forth on the Sabbath, even they shall keep the Watch of the House of the LORD, about the King.

8 And ye shall compass the King round about, every Man with his Weapons in his Hand: and he that cometh within the Ranges, let him be slain; and be ye with the King, as he goeth out, and as he cometh in.

9 And the Captains over the Hundreds did according to all things that Jehoiada the Priest commanded.

10 And to the Captains over Hundreds did the Priests give King David's Spears and Shields, that were in the Temple of the LORD.

11 And the Guard stood every Man with his Weapons in his Hand, round about the King.

12 And he brought forth the King's Son, and put the Crown upon him, and gave him the Testimony, and they made him King, and anointed him, and they clapt their Hands, and said, God save the King.

13 And when Athaliah heard the Noise of the Guard, and of the People, she came into the Temple.

14 And when she had looked, behold, the King stood by a Pillar, as the Manner was, and the Princes, and the Trumpeters by the King, and all the People of the Land rejoiced, and blew with Trumpets: and Athaliah rent her Cloaths, and cried, Treason, Treason.

15 But Jehoiada commanded the Officers of the Host, and said unto them, Have her forth without the Ranges; and him that followeth her, kill with the Sword. For the Priest had said, Let her not be slain in the House of the LORD.

16 And they laid Hands on her, and she went by the Way by the which the Horses came into the King's House, and there was she slain.

17 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 537

17 And Jehoiada made a Covenant between the LORD, and the King, and the People, that they should be the LORD's People; between the King also and the People.

18 And the People of the Land went into the House of Baal, and brake it down, his Altars and his Images brake they in pieces throughly, and slew Maltam the Priest of Baal before the Altars. And the Priests appointed Officers over the House of the LORD.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XXIV.

Joash reigneth well all the Days of Jehoiada: 4 He gave Order for the Repair of the Temple. 15 Jehoiada's Death and honourable Burial. 17 Joash falling to Idolatries, slayeth Zechariah the Son of Jehoiada. 23 Joash is spoil'd by the Syrians, and slain by Zabad and Jehoazabad. 27 Amaziah succeedeth him.

Ver. 1 JOASH was seven Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned FORTY YEARS in Jerusalem.

2 And Joash did that which was RIGHT in the sight of the LORD, all the DAYS of JEHOIADA the Priest.

3 And Jehoiada took for him two Wives, and he begat Sons and Daughters.

4 And it came to pass after this, that Joash was minded to REPAIR the House of the LORD.

5 And he gathered together the Priests and the Levites, and said to them, Go out unto the Cities of Judah, and gather of all Israel Money to repair the House of your GOD from Year to Year, and see that ye haste the Matter: howbeit the Levites hastned it not.

6 And the King called for Jehoiada, and said unto him, Why hast thou not required of the Levites to bring in out of Judah, and out of Jerusalem, the COLLECTION, according to the COMMANDMENT of MOSES the SERVANT of the LORD, and of the Congregation of Israel, for the Tabernacle of Witnesses?

7 For the Sons of Athaliah, that WICKED WOMAN, had BROKEN up the House of GOD, and also all the dedicate Things of the House of the LORD did they BESTOW upon BAALIM.

8 And at the King's Commandment they made a Chest, and set it without, at the Gate of the House of the LORD.

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9 And

538 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

9 And they made a Proclamation through Judah and Jerusalem, to bring into the LORD the COLLECTION that Moses the Servant of GOD laid upon Israel in the Wilderness.

10 And all the Princes, and all the People REJOYCED, and brought in, and cast into the Chest, until they had made an end.

11 Now it came to pass, that at what Time the Chest was brought into the King's Office by the Hand of the Levites; and when they saw that there was much Money: the King's Scribe, and the High Priest's Officer came and emptied the Chest, and took it, and carried it to his Place again. Thus they did Day by Day, and gathered Money in abundance.

12 And the King and Jehoiada gave it to such as did the Work of the Service of the House of the LORD, and hired Masons and Carpenters to repair the House of the LORD.

13 And they set the House of GOD in his STATE, and strengthened it.

14 And when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the Money before the King and Jehoiada, whereof were made Vessels for the House of the LORD: and they offered Burnt-offerings in the House of the LORD CONTINUALLY, all the Days of Jehoiada.

15 But Jehoiada was full of Days when he died, an hundred and thirty Years old was he when he died.

16 And they buried him in the City of David, AMONG the KINGS, because he had done GOOD in Israel, both towards GOD, and towards his House.

17 Now after the Death of Jehoiada, came the PRINCES of Judah, and made Obeisance to the King: then the King HEARKNED unto them.

18 And they left the House of the LORD GOD of their Fathers, and served Groves and IDOLS: and WRATH came upon Judah for this their TRESPASS.

19 Yet he sent PROPHETS to them, to bring them again unto the LORD, and they TESTIFIED against them: but they would NOT GIVE EAR.

20 And the SPIRIT of GOD came upon ZECHARIAH the Son of Jehoiada the Priest, which stood above the People, and said unto them, Thus saith GOD, Why TRANSGRESS ye the COMMANDMENTS of the LORD, that ye cannot

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 537

not PROSPER? because ye have FORSAKEN the LORD, he hath also FORSAKEN you.

21 ¹ And they CONSPIRED against him, and STONED him with Stones at the Commandment of the King in the Court of the House of the LORD.

22 Thus Joash the King remembered not the KINDNESS which Jehoiada his Father had done to him, but SLEW his SON: and when he died, he said, The LORD look upon it, and REQUIRE it.

23 And it came to pass, at the End of the Year, that the Host of Syria came up against him: and they came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the PRINCES of the People from among the People, and sent all the Spoil of them unto the King of Damascus.

37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that KILLEST the PROPHETS, and STONEST them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy Children together, even as a Hen gathereth her Chickens under her Wings, and ye would not!

38 Behold, your House is left unto you DESOLATE.

39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, BLESSED is he that cometh in the NAME of the LORD.

24 ^m For the Army of the Syrians came with a SMALL Company of Men, and the LORD DELIVERED a very GREAT Host into their Hand, because they had FORSAKEN the LORD God of their Fathers: So they EXECUTED JUDGMENT against Joash.

25 And when they were departed from him (for they left him in great Diseases) his own SERVANTS CONSPIRED against him, for the Blood of the Sons of Jehoiada the Priest,

¹ *Matth. xxiii. 29* Wo unto you SCRIBES and PHARISES, HYPOCRITES; because ye build the Tombs of the PROPHETS, and garnish the Sepulchres of the RIGHTEOUS.

30 And say, If we had been in the Days of our Fathers, we would not have been Partakers with them in the BLOOD of the PROPHETS.

31 Wherefore ye be Witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the Children of them which KILLED the PROPHETS.

32 Fill ye up then the Measures of your Fathers.

33 Ye Serpents, ye Generation of Vipers, how can ye escape the Damnation of Hell?

34 Wherefore behold, I send unto you PROPHETS, and WISE MEN, and SCRIBES; and some of them ye shall KILL and CRUCIFY, and some of them shall ye SCOURGE in your Synagogues, and PERSECUTE them from City to City:

35 That upon you may come all the RIGHTEOUS BLOOD shed upon the Earth, from the Blood of righteous Abel, unto the BLOOD of ZACHARIAS Son of Barachias, whom ye SLEW between the Temple and the Altar.

36 Verily I say unto you, All these Things shall come upon this Generation.

^m *Heb. x. 30* We know him that hath said, VENGEANCE belongeth unto me, I will RECOMPENSE. saith the LORD. And again, the LORD shall JUDGE his People

31 It is a fearful Thing to FALL into the Hands of the LIVING GOD.

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and

540 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

and slew him on his Bed : but they buried him not in the Sepulchres of the Kings.

27 Now concerning his Sons, and the Greatness of the Burdens laid upon him, and the repairing of the House of God, behold, they are written in the Story of the Book of the Kings. And Amaziah his Son reigned in his stead.



IT is observed by the learned Dr. *Lightfoot*, That the Murder of *Zacharias* the Prophet in the Court of the Temple, was the Beginning of the Ruin of *Judah*, whereby they plainly shew'd, that they despised and rejected the LORD, his TEMPLE, PRIESTHOOD, and PROPHECY; and from that Time did their State decay, of which they were forewarn'd by the Prophet *HOSEA*,

Chap. iv. Ver. 1 Hear the Word of the LORD, ye Children of Israel : for the LORD hath a CONTROVERSY with the Inhabitants of the Land, because there is no TRUTH, nor MERCY, nor KNOWLEDGE of GOD in the Land.

2 By SWEARING, and LYING, and KILLING, and STEALING, and committing ADULTERY, they break out, and BLOOD toucheth BLOOD.

3 Therefore shall the Land MOURN, and every one that dwelleth therein shall LANGUISH, with the Beasts of the Field, and with the Fowls of Heaven, yea, the Fishes of the Sea also shall be taken away.

4 Yet let no Man strive, nor reprove another : for thy People are as they that strive with the Priest.

5 Therefore shalt thou fall in the Day, and the Prophet also shall fall with thee in the Night, and I will destroy thy Mother.

6 My People are DESTROYED for LACK of KNOWLEDGE : because thou hast rejected Knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no Priest to me : seeing thou hast forgotten the Law of thy God, I will also forget thy Children.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 541

II. KINGS, CHAP. XIII.

1 Jehoahaz his wicked Reign. 3 Jehoahaz oppressed by Hazael, is relieved by Prayer. 8 Joash succeedeth him : 10 His wicked Reign. 12 Jeroboam succeedeth him. 14 Elisba dying, prophesieth to Joash three Victories over the Syrians. 20 The Moabites invading the Land, Elisba's Bones raise up a dead Man. 22 Hazael dying, Joash getteth three Victories over Benhadad.

Ver. 1 **I**N the three and twentieth Year of Joash the Son of Ahaziah King of Judah, Jehoahaz began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned SEVENTEEN Years.

2 And he did that which was EVIL in the sight of the LORD, and followed the Sins of Jeroboam, which made Israel to sin, he departed not therefrom.

3 And the ANGER of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he DELIVERED them into the Hand of Hazael King of Syria, and into the Hand of Benhadad the Son of Hazael, all their Days.

4 And Jehoahaz BESOUGHT the LORD, and the LORD HEARKNED unto him : for he saw the OPPRESSION of Israel, because the King of Syria oppressed them.

5 (And the LORD gave Israel a Saviour, so that they went out from under the Hand of the Syrians : and the Children of Israel dwelt in their Tents, as besoretime.

6 Nevertheless they departed not from the SINS of the House of Jeroboam, but walked therein, and there remained the Grove also in Samaria.)

7 Neither did he leave of the People to Jehoahaz, but fifty Horsemen, and ten Chariots, and ten thousand Footmen ; for the King of Syria had destroyed them, and had made them like the DUST by THRESHING.

9 And Jehoahaz slept with his Fathers, and they buried him in Samaria, and Joash his Son reigned in his stead.

10 In the thirty and seventh Year of Joash King of Judah, began Jehoash the Son of Jehoahaz to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned sixteen Years.

11 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD ; he departed not from all the Sins of Jeroboam.

12 And the rest of the Acts of Joash, and all that he did, and his Might wherewith he fought against Amaziah King of
of

542 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

of Judah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel?

13 And Joash slept with his Fathers, and Jeroboam sat upon his Throne: and Joash was buried in Samaria with the Kings of Israel.

14 Now Elisha was fallen sick of his Sickness whereof he died, and Joash the King of Israel came down unto him, and wept over his Face, and said, O my Father, my Father, the Chariot of Israel, and the Horsemen thereof.

15 And Elisha said unto him, Take Bow and Arrows: and he took unto him Bow and Arrows.

16 And he said to the King of Israel, Put thine Hand upon the Bow: and he put his Hand upon it: and Elisha put his Hands upon the King's Hands.

17 And he said, Open the Window Eastward: and he opened it. Then Elisha said, Shoot: and he shot. And he said, The ARROW of the LORD's DELIVERANCE, and the Arrow of Deliverance from Syria: for thou shalt smite the Syrians in Aphek, till thou have consumed them.

18 And he said, Take the Arrows: and he took them. And he said unto the King of Israel, Smite upon the Ground: and he smote thrice, and stayed.

19 And the Man of God was wroth with him, and said, Thou shouldst have smitten five or six times, then hadst thou smitten Syria, till thou hadst consumed it: whereas now thou shalt smite Syria but thrice.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XXV.

1 *Amaziah beginneth to reign well: 3 He executeth Justice upon the Traitors: 5 Having hired an Army of Israelites against the Edomites, at the Word of a Prophet, he loseth the hundred Talents, and dismisseth them: 11 He overthroweth the Edomites. 13 The Israelites discontented with their Dismission, spoil as they return home. 14 Amaziah proud of his Victories, serveth the Gods of Edom, and despiseth the Admonitions of the Prophet: 17 He provoketh Joash to his Overthrow: 25 His Reign: 27 He is slain by Conspiracy.*

Ver. 1 **A**MAZIAH was twenty and five Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned twenty and nine Years in Jerusalem.

2 And he did that which was RIGHT in the sight of the LORD, but not with a PERFECT HEART.

3 Now

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 543

3 Now it came to pass when the Kingdom was established to him, that he **SLEW** his Servants that had killed the King his Father.

4 But he **SLEW** not their **CHILDREN**, but did as it is **WRITTEN** in the **LAW** in the **BOOK** of **MOSES**, where the **LORD** commanded, saying, The **FATHERS** shall not **DIE** for the **CHILDREN**, neither shall the **CHILDREN** **DIE** for the **FATHERS**, but every Man shall **DIE** for his own **SIN**.

5 Moreover, Amaziah gathered Judah together, and Benjamin : and he numbred them from twenty Years old and above, and found them three hundred thousand choice Men, able to go forth to War, that could handle Spear and Shield.

6 He hired also an hundred thousand mighty Men of Valour out of Israel, for an hundred Talents of Silver.

7 But there came a **MAN** of **GOD** to him, saying, O King let not the **ARMY** of **ISRAEL** go with thee ; for the **LORD** is **NOT** with **ISRAEL**, to wit, with all the Children of Ephraim.

8 **But** if thou wilt go, do it, be strong for the Battle : **GOD** shall make thee **FALL** before the Enemy : for **GOD** hath Power to **HELP**, and to **CAST DOWN**.

9 And Amaziah said to the Man of **GOD**, But what shall we do for the hundred Talents which I have given to the Army of Israel ? And the Man of **GOD** answered, The **LORD** is **ABLE** to give thee much more than this.

10 Then Amaziah separated the Army that was come to him out of Ephraim, to go home again : and they returned home in great Anger.

11 And Amaziah strengthened himself, and led forth his People, and went to the Valley of Salt, and smote of the Children of Seir ten thousand.

12 And other ten thousand left alive, did the Children of Judah carry away Captive, and brought them unto the top of the Rock, and cast them down from the top of the Rock, that they were broken all in pieces.

13 But the Soldiers of the Army which Amaziah sent back, that they should not go with him to Battle, fell upon the Cities of Judah, from Samaria even unto Beth-horon, and smote three thousand of them, and took much Spoil.

14 Now it came to pass after that Amaziah was come from the Slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the Gods of the Children of **SEIR**, and set them up to be his
Gods;

544 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

GODS, and bowed down himself before them, and burned **INCENSE** unto them.

15 Wherefore the **ANGER** of the **LORD** was kindled against Amaziah, and he sent unto him a **PROPHET**, which said unto him, Why hast thou sought after the **GODS** of the **People** which could **NOT DELIVER** their own **PEOPLE** out of thine Hand.

16 And it came to pass, as he talked with him, that the King said unto him, Art thou made of the King's **COUNSEL**? **FORBEAR**; why shouldst thou be smitten? Then the Prophet forbore, and said, I know that **GOD** hath **DETERMINED** to **DESTROY** thee, because thou hast done this, and hast not **HEARKNED** unto my Counsel.

17 Then Amaziah King of Judah took Advice, and sent to Joash, saying, Come, let us see one another in the Face.

18 And Joash King of Israel sent to Amaziah, saying, The Thistle that was in Lebanon, sent to the Cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, Give me thy Daughter to my Son to Wife: and there passed by a wild Beast that was in Lebanon, and trod down the Thistle.

19 Thou sayest, Lo, thou hast smitten the Edomites, and thine Heart **LIFTETH** thee up to boast: abide now at home, why shouldst thou meddle to thine Hurt, that thou shouldst fall, even thou and Judah with thee?

20 But Amaziah would not hear, for it **CAME** of **GOD**, that he might deliver them into the Hand of their Enemies, because they **SOUGHT** after the **GODS** of Edom.

21 So Joash the King of Israel went up, and they saw one another in the Face, both he and Amaziah King of Judah, at Beth-sheMesh, which belongeth to Judah.

22 And Judah was put to the worse before Israel, and they fled every Man to his Tent.

23 And Joash the King of Israel took Amaziah King of Judah the Son of Joash, the Son of Jehoahaz, at Beth-sheMesh, and brought him to Jerusalem, and brake down the Wall of Jerusalem, four hundred Cubits.

24 And he took all the Gold, and the Silver, and all the Vessels that were found in the House of **GOD** with Obed-edom, and the Treasures of the King's House, the Hostages also, and returned to Samaria.

25 And Amaziah the Son of Joash King of Judah, lived after the Death of Joash Son of Jehoahaz King of Israel, fifteen Years.

27 Now

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 545

27 Now after the Time that Amaziah did TURN away from FOLLOWING the LORD, they made a Conspiracy against him in Jerusalem, and he fled to Lachish: but they sent to Lachish after him, and slew him there.

28 And they brought him upon Horses, and buried him with his Fathers in the City of Judah.

C H A P. XXVI.

1 *Uzziah succeeding, and reigning well in the Days of Zechariah, prospereth: 16 Waxing proud, he invadeth the Priest's Office, and is smitten with Leprosy: 22 He dieth, and Jotham succeedeth him.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN all the People of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen Years old, and made him King in the Room of his Father Amaziah.

3 Sixteen Years old was Uzziah, when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two Years in Jerusalem.

4 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his Father Amaziah did.

5 And he SOUGHT GOD in the Days of Zechariah, who had UNDERSTANDING in the VISIONS of GOD: and as long as he SOUGHT the LORD, GOD made him to PROSPER.

6 And he went forth and warred against the Philistines, and brake down the Wall of Gath, and the Wall of Jabneh, and the Wall of Ashdod, and built Cities about Ashdod, and among the Philistines.

7 And GOD HELPED him against the PHILISTINES, and against the ARABIANS that dwelt in Gur-baal, and the Me-hunims.

8 And the Ammonites gave Gifts to Uzziah, and his Name spread abroad even to the entering in of Egypt, for he strengthened himself exceedingly.

9 Moreover, Uzziah built Towers in Jerusalem, and fortified them.

10 Also he built Towers in the Desert, and digged many Wells, for he had much Cattle, both in the Low-Country, and in the Plains: Husbandmen also, and Vine-dressers in the Mountains, and in Carmel: for he loved Husbandry.

11 Moreover, Uzziah had an Host of fighting Men, that went out to War by Bands.

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12 The

546 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

12 The whole Number of the chief of the Fathers of the mighty Men of Valour, were two thousand and six hundred.

13 And under their Hand was an Army, three hundred thousand, and seven thousand and five hundred, that made War with mighty Power, to help the King against the Enemy.

14 And Uziah prepared for them throughout all the Host, Shields, and Spears, and Helmets, and Habergeons, and Bows, and Slings to cast Stones.

15 And he made in Jerusalem Engines invented by cunning Men, to be on the Towers, and upon the Bulwarks, to shoot Arrows and great Stones withal: and his Name spread far abroad, for he was MARVELLOUSLY HELPED till he was strong.

16 But when he was STRONG, his HEART WAS LIFTED UP to his DESTRUCTION: for he TRANSGRESSED against the LORD his GOD, and went into the Temple of the LORD, to burn Incense upon the Altar of Incense.

17 Azariah the Priest went in after him, and with him fourscore Priests of the LORD, that were valiant Men.

18 And they withstood Uziah the King, and said unto him, It appertaineth not unto thee, Uziah, to burn Incense unto the LORD, but to the Priests the Sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn Incense: go out of the Sanctuary, for thou hast TRESPASSED, neither shall it be for thine Honour from the LORD GOD.

19 Then Uziah was wroth, and had a Censer in his Hand, to burn Incense: and while he was wroth with the Priests, the LEPROSY even rose up in his Forehead, before the Priests in the House of the LORD, from beside the Incense-altar.

20 And Azariah the Chief-priest, and all the Priests looked upon him, and behold, he was leprous in his Forehead, and they thrust him out from thence, yea, himself also hastened to go out, because the LORD had smitten him.

21 And Uziah the King was a LEPER unto the Day of his Death, and dwelt in a several House, being a Leper, for he was cut off from the House of the LORD: and Jotham his Son was over the King's House, judging the People of the Land.

22 Now the rest of the Acts of Uziah, first and last, did Isaiah the Prophet the Son of Amoz write.

23 So Uziah slept with his Fathers, and they buried him with his Fathers in the Field of the Burials which belonged

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 547

to the Kings; for they said, He is a Leper: and Jotham his Son reigned in his stead.



IT is observed by Dr. *Lightfoot*, That it pleased God, in the Days of *Uzziah*, who is call'd *Azariah* (and was Contemporary with *Jeroboam* the 2^d King of *Israel*) to raise up a Generation of Prophets that should commit their Prophecies to Writing. The First of which was *HOSEA*,

Chap. i. Ver. 1 The Word of the LORD that came unto *Hosea* the Son of *Beer*, in the Days of *Uzziah*, *Jotham*, *Ahaz*, and *Hezekiah*, Kings of *Judah*, and in the Days of *Jeroboam* the Son of *Joash* King of *Israel*.

The Second, *JOEL*. The Third, *AMOS*,

Chap. i. Ver. 1 The Words of *Amos*, who was among the Herdmen of *Tekoa*, which he saw concerning *Israel* in the Days of *Uzziah* King of *Judah*, and in the Days of *Jeroboam* the Son of *Joash* King of *Israel*, two Years before the Earthquake.

The Fourth, the Evangelical Prophet *ISAIAH*,

Chap. i. Ver. 1 The Vision of *Isaiah* the Son of *Amoz*, which he saw concerning *Judah* and *Jerusalem*, in the Days of *Uzziah*, *Jotham*, *Ahaz*, and *Hezekiah*, Kings of *Judah*.

These Prophets foretold the Captivity of the Ten Tribes by the *Affyrians*, and the Captivity of the Tribes of *Judah* and *Benjamin* by the *Chaldeans*: The Truth of which Predictions were verified upon both within very few Years.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XXVII.

1 *Jotham* reigning well, prospereth. 5 He subdueth the *Ammonites*: 7 His Reign. 9 *Ahaz* succeedeth him.

Ver. 1 **J**OTHAM was twenty and five Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned sixteen Years in *Jerusalem*.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his Father *Uzziah* did: howbeit he entred not into the Temple of the LORD. And the People did yet CORRUPTLY.

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3 He

548 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

3 He built the high Gate of the House of the LORD, and on the Wall of Ophel he built much.

4 Moreover, he built Cities in the Mountains of Judah, and in the Forests he built Castles and Towers.

5 He fought also with the King of the Ammonites, and prevailed against them. And the Children of Ammon gave him the same Year, an hundred Talents of Silver, and ten thousand Measures of Wheat, and ten thousand of Barley. So much did the Children of Ammon pay unto him, both the second Year and the third.

6 So Jotham became mighty, because he PREPARED his WAYS before the LORD his GOD.

8 He was five and twenty Years old when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen Years in Jerusalem.

9 And Jotham slept with his Fathers, and they buried him in the City of David, and Ahaz his Son reigned in his stead.

II. **KINGS, CHAP. XVI.**

1 *Ahaz his wicked Reign. 5 Ahaz assailed by Rezin and Pekah, hireth Tiglath-pileser against them. 10 Ahaz sending a Pattern of an Altar from Damascus to Urijah, diverteth the brazen Altar to his own Devotion: 17 He spoileth the Temple.*

Ver. 1 **I**N the seventeenth Year of Pekah the Son of Remaliah, Ahaz the Son of Jotham King of Judah began to reign.

2 Twenty Years old was Ahaz when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen Years in Jerusalem, and did NOT that which was RIGHT in the SIGHT of the LORD his GOD, like David his Father.

3 But he WALKED in the WAYS of the KINGS of Israel, yea, and made his Son to PASS through the FIRE, according to the ABOMINATION of the HEATHEN, whom the LORD CAST OUT from before the Children of Israel.

4 He sacrificed and burnt Incense in the high Places, and on the Hills, and under every green Tree.

5 Then Rezin King of Syria, and Pekah Son of Remaliah King of Israel, came up to Jerusalem to War: and they besieged Ahaz, but could not overcome him.

6 At that Time Rezin King of Syria recovered Elath to Syria,

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 549

Syria, and drave the Jews from Elath : and the Syrians came to Elath, and dwelt there.

7 So Ahaz sent Messengers to Tiglath-pileser King of ASSYRIA, saying, I am thy SERVANT, and thy Son : come up, and save me out of the Hand of the King of SYRIA, and out of the Hand of the King of ISRAEL, which rise up against me.

8 Ahaz took the Silver and Gold that was found in the House of the LORD, and in the Treasures of the King's House, and sent it for a Present to the King of Assyria.

9 And the King of Assyria hearkned unto him : for the King of Assyria went up against Damascus, and took it, and carried the People of it Captive to Kir, and slew Rezin.

10 And King Ahaz went to Damascus, to meet Tiglath-pileser King of Assyria, and saw an ALTAR that was at Damascus : and King Ahaz sent to URIJAH the PRIEST the Fashion of the Altar, and the Pattern of it, according to all the Workmanship thereof.

11 And Urijah the Priest built an Altar, according to all that King Ahaz had sent from Damascus : so Urijah the Priest made it against King Ahaz came from Damascus.

12 And when the King was come from Damascus, the King saw the Altar : and the King approached to the Altar, and offered thereon.

13 And he burnt his Burnt-offering, and his Meat-offering, and poured his Drink-offering, and sprinkled the Blood of his Peace-offerings upon the Altar.

14 And he brought the brasen Altar which was before the LORD, from the Forefront of the House, from between the Altar and the House of the LORD, and put it on the North-side of the Altar.

15 And King Ahaz commanded URIJAH the PRIEST, saying, Upon the GREAT ALTAR burn the Morning Burnt-offering, and the Evening Meat-offering, and the King's Burnt-sacrifice, and his Meat-offering, with the Burnt-offering of all the People of the Land, and their Meat-offering, and their Drink-offerings, and sprinkle upon it all the Blood of the Burnt-offering, and all the Blood of the Sacrifice : and the BRASEN ALTAR shall be for me to enquire by.

16 Thus did URIJAH the PRIEST, according to all that King Ahaz COMMANDED.

17 And

550 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

17 And King Ahaz cut off the Borders of the Bases, and removed the Laver from off them, and took down the Sea from off the brasen Oxen that were under it, and put it upon a Pavement of Stones.

18 And the Covert for the Sabbath that they had built in the House, and the King's Entry without, turned he from the House of the LORD, for the King of Assyria.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XXVIII.

1 *Abaz reigning very wickedly, is greatly afflicted by the Syrians. 6 Judab being captivated by the Israelites, is sent home by the Counsel of Oded the Prophet. 16 Abaz sending for Aid to Assyria, is not helped thereby. 22 In this Distress he groweth more idolatrous. 26 He dying, Hezekiah succeedeth him.*

Ver. 3 **M**OREOVER, he burnt INCENSE in the VALLEY of the Son of Hinnon, and BURNT his CHILDREN in the Fire, after the ABOMINATIONS of the Heathen whom the LORD had cast out before the Children of Israel.

4 He sacrificed also, and burnt Incense in the high Places, and on the Hills, and under every green Tree.

5 Wherefore the LORD his GOD DELIVERED him into the Hand of the KING of SYRIA, and they smote him, and carried away a great MULTITUDE of them CAPTIVES, and brought them to DAMASCUS : and he was also DELIVERED into the Hand of the King of Israel, who smote him with a great Slaughter.

6 For Pekah the Son of Remaliah slew in Judah an HUNDRED and TWENTY THOUSAND in one Day, which were all valiant Men; because they had FORSAKEN the LORD GOD of their Fathers.

7 And Zichri a mighty Man of Ephraim, slew Maaseiah the King's SON, and Azricam the Governour of the House, and Elkanah that was next to the King.

8 And the Children of Israel carried away Captive of their Brethren, TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND Women, Sons and Daughters, and took also away much Spoil from them, and brought the Spoil to Samaria.

9 But a PROPHET of the LORD was there, whose Name was ODED : and he went out before the Host that came to Samaria,

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 551

Samaria, and said unto them, Behold, because the LORD GOD of your Fathers was WROTH with JUDAH, he hath DELIVERED them into your Hand, and ye have slain them in a RAGE that REACHETH up into HEAVEN.

10 And now ye purpose to keep under the Children of Judah and Jerusalem for Bond-men and Bond-women unto you : but ARE there NOT with you, even with you, SINS against the LORD your GOD ?

11 Now hear me, therefore, and DELIVER the CAPTIVES again which ye have taken Captive of your Brethren : for the FIERCE WRATH of the LORD is upon you.

12 Then certain of the Heads of the Children of Ephraim stood up against them that came from the War.

13 And said unto them, Ye shall not BRING in the CAPTIVES hither : for whereas we have OFFENDED against the LORD ALREADY, ye intend to ADD MORE to our SINS, and to our Trespas : for our TRESPASS is great, and there is FIERCE WRATH against ISRAEL.

14 So the armed Men left the Captives and the Spoil, before the Princes and all the Congregation.

15 And the Men which were expressed by Name, rose up, and took the Captives, and with the Spoil clothed all that were naked among them, and arrayed them, and shod them, and gave them to eat and to drink, and anointed them, and carried all the feeble of them upon Asses, and brought them to Jericho, the City of Palm-trees, to their Brethren : then they returned to Samaria.

16 At that Time did King Ahaz send unto the Kings of Assyria to help him.

17 For again the Edomites had come and smitten Judah, and carried away Captives.

18 The Philistines also had invaded the Cities of the Low-countrey, and of the South of Judah, and had taken Beth-shemesh, and Aijalon, and Gederoth, and Shocho with the Villages thereof, and Timnah with the Villages thereof, Gimzo also and the Villages thereof : and they dwelt there.

19 For the LORD BROUGHT JUDAH LOW, because of AHAZ King of Israel ; for he made Judah NAKED, and transgressed sore against the LORD.

20 And Tilgath-pilnefer King of Assyria came unto him, and DISTRESSED him, but STRENGTHENED HIM NOT.

21 For

552 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

21 For Ahaz took away a Portion out of the House of the LORD, and out of the House of the Kings, and of the Princes, and gave it to the King of Assyria : but he HELPED him not.

22 And in the Time of his Distress, did he TRESPASS yet more against the LORD : this is THAT King AHAZ.

23 For he sacrificed unto the Gods of Damascus, which SMOTE him : and he said, Because the GODS of the King of Syria help them, therefore will I SACRIFICE to them, that they may HELP me : but they were the RUIN of HIM and of all ISRAEL.

24 And Ahaz gathered together the Vessels of the House of GOD, and cut in pieces the Vessels of the House of GOD, and SHUT UP the Doors of the House of the LORD, and he made him ALTARS in every Corner of Jerusalem.

25 And in every several City of Judah he made high Places to burn Incense unto other Gods, and provoked to ANGER the LORD GOD of his Fathers.

27 And Ahaz slept with his Fathers, and they buried him in the City of Jerusalem : but they brought him not into the Sepulchres of the Kings of Israel : and Hezekiah his Son reigned in his stead.

II. KINGS, CHAP. XVII.

1 *Hoshea his wicked Reign : 3 Being subdued by Shalmanezar, he conspireth against him with So King of Egypt. 24 The strange Nations which were transplanted into Samaria, being plagued with Lions, make a Mixture of Religions.*

Ver. 1 **I**N the twelfth Year of Ahaz King of Judah, began HOSHEA the Son of Elah to reign in Samaria, over Israel nine Years.

2 And he did that which was EVIL in the sight of the LORD, but not as the Kings of Israel that were before him.

3 Against him came up Shalmanezar King of Assyria, and Hoshea became his Servant, and gave him Presents.

4 And the King of Assyria found Conspiracy in Hoshea : for he had sent Messengers to So King of Egypt, and brought no Present to the King of Assyria, as he had done Year by Year : therefore the King of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in Prison.

5 Then

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 553

5 ^a Then the King of Assyria came up throughout all the Land, and went up to Samaria, and besieged it three Years.

6 In the ninth Year of Hoshea, the King of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the River of Gozan, and in the Cities of the Medes.

7 For so it was, that the Children of Israel had SINED against the LORD their GOD, which had brought them up out of the Land of Egypt, from under the Hand of Pharaoh King of Egypt, and had feared other Gods,

8 And WALKED in the Statutes of the HEATHEN (whom the LORD cast out from before the Children of Israel) and of the Kings of Israel, which they had made.

9 And the Children of Israel did secretly those Things that were not right against the LORD^a their GOD, and they built them high Places in all their Cities, from the Tower of the Watchmen to the fenced City.

10 And they set them up IMAGES and Groves in every high Hill, and under every green Tree.

11 And there they burnt INCENSE in all the high Places, as did the Heathen whom the LORD carried away before them, and wrought wicked

^a *Hosea. iv.* 1 Hear the Word of the LORD, ye Children of Israel: for the LORD hath a CONTROVERSY with the Inhabitants of the Land, because there is no TRUTH, nor MERCY, nor KNOWLEDGE of GOD in the Land.

2 By SWEARING, and LYING, and KILLING, and STEALING, and committing ADULTERY, they break out, and BLOOD toucheth BLOOD.

3 Therefore shall the Land mourn, and every one that dwelleth shall languish, with the Beasts of the Field, and with the Fowls of Heaven, yea, the Fishes of the Sea also shall be taken away.

4 Therefore shalt thou FALL in the Day, and the Prophet also shall fall with thee in the Night, and I will destroy thy Mother.

6 My People are DESTROYED for lack of KNOWLEDGE: because thou hast REJECTED Knowledge, I will also REJECT thee, that thou shalt be no Priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the Law of thy GOD, I will also forget thy Children.

9 And there shall be LIKE PEOPLE, LIKE PRIEST: and I will punish them for their Ways, and reward their Doings.

Hosea v. 1 Hear ye this, O PRIESTS, and hearken ye, HOUSE of ISRAEL, and give ye ear, O House of the King: for Judgment is toward you.

3 I know Ephraim and Israel is not hid from me: for now, O Ephraim, thou committest Whoredom, and Israel is defiled.

5 And the PRIDE of Israel doth testify to his Face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim FALL in their INIQUITY: JUDAH also shall fall with them.

9 Ephraim shall be DESOLATE in the Day of Rebuke: among the Tribes of Israel have I made known that which shall surely be.

13 When Ephraim saw his Sickness, and Judah saw his Wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to King Jareb: yet could he not heal you.

Hosea vi. 4 O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your Goodness is as a Morning Cloud, and as the early Dew it goeth away.

5 Therefore have I hewed them
B b b b Things

554 **KINGS and CHRONICLES.**

Things to provoke the LORD to Anger.

12 For they served IDOLS, whereof the LORD had said unto them, Ye shall not do this Thing.

13 Yet the LORD TESTIFIED against Israel, and against Judah, by all the PROPHETS, and by all the Seers, saying, TURN ye from your evil Ways, and KEEP my COMMANDMENTS, and my Statutes, according to all the Law which I commanded your Fathers, and which I sent to you by my Servants the PROPHETS.

14 Notwithstanding, they would not HEAR, but hardened their Necks, like to the Neck of their Fathers, that did not BELIEVE in the LORD their God.

15 And they REJECTED his Statutes, and his COVENANT that he made with their Fathers, and his Testimonies which he testified against them, and they followed VANITY, and became vain, and went after the HEATHEN that were round about them, concerning whom the LORD had CHARGED them that they should not do like them.

16 And they LEFT all the COMMANDMENTS of the LORD their GOD, and made them molten Images, even TWO CALVES, and made a Grove, and worshipped all

by the PROPHETS, I have slain them by the Words of my Mouth, and thy Judgments are as the Light that goeth forth.

6 For I desired MEAT, and not SACRIFICE; and the KNOWLEDGE of God more than BURNT OFFERINGS.

9 As Troops of Robbers wait for a Man, so the Company of PARASITS murder in the way by Consent: for they commit Lewdness.

Hosea vii. 1 When I would have healed ISRAEL, then the Iniquity of Ephraim was discovered, and the WICKEDNESS of SAMARIA: for they commit Falshood: and the Thief cometh in, and the Troop of the Robbers spoileth without.

2 And they consider not in their Hearts, that I remember all their Wickedness: now their own Doings have beset them about, they are before my Face.

3 They make the King glad with their WICKEDNESS, and the PRINCES with their LIES.

4 They are all ADULTERERS as an Oven heated.

9 STRANGERS have devoured his Strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, grey Hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.

10 And the Pride of Israel testifieth to his Face, and they do not RETURN to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this.

13 Wo unto them, for they have FLED from me: DESTRUCTION unto them, because they have TRANSGRESSED against me: though I have REDEEMED them, yet they have spoken LIES against me.

14 And they have not CARED unto me with their HEART, when they howled upon their Beds: they assemble themselves for Corn and Wine, and they REBEL against me.

16 They return, but not to the MOST HIGH: they are like a deceitful Bow: their Princes shall fall by the Sword for the Rage of their Tongue: this shall be their Derision in the Land of Egypt.

Hosea viii. 3 Israel hath cast off the Thing that is good: the Enemy shall pursue him.

4 They have set up KINGS, but not by ME: they have made PRINCES, the

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 555

the Host of Heaven, and served BAAL.

17 And they caused their Sons and their Daughters to pass through the FIRE, and used Divination and Enchantments, and sold themselves to do Evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to Anger.

18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and REMOVED them out of his sight: there was none left but the Tribe of JUDAH only.

19 Also JUDAH kept not the COMMANDMENTS of the LORD their GOD, but walked in the Statutes of Israel which they made.

20 And the LORD REJECTED all the Seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the Hand of SPOILERS, until he had cast them out of his sight.

21 For he rent Israel from the House of DAVID, and they made Jeroboam the Son of Nebat King, and Jeroboam drave Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a great SIN.

22 For the Children of Israel walked in all the Sins of Jeroboam which he did, they departed not from them:

23 Until the LORD REMOVED Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his Servants the Prophets. So was Israel carried away out of

and I KNOW it not: of their Silver and their Gold have they made them Idols, that they may be cut off.

5 Thy CALF, O Samaria, hath cast thee off; mine Anger is kindled against them: how long will it be ere they attain to Innocency?

12 I have written to HIM the great Things of my LAW, but they were counted as a STRANGER thing.

14 For Israel hath forgotten his Maker.

Hosea ix. 9 They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the Days of Gibeah: therefore he will remember their Iniquity, he will visit their Sins.

12 Though they bring up their Children, yet will I bereave them, that there shall not be a Man left; yea, wo also to them when I depart from them.

15 For the WICKEDNESS of their Doings I will DRIVE them out of mine House.

17 My GOD will cast them away, because they did not HEARKEN unto him: and they shall be WANDERERS among the NATIONS.

Hosea x. 1 Israel is an empty Vine, he bringeth forth Fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his Fruit, he hath increased the ALTARS; according to the Goodness of his Land, they have made goodly Images.

3 For now they shall say, We have no King, because we FEARED not the LORD, what then should a King do to us?

5 The INHABITANTS of SAMARIA shall fear, because of the CALVES of Beth-aven: for the People thereof shall mourn over it, and the Priests thereof that rejoiced on it, for the Glory thereof, because it is departed from it.

6 It shall be also carried unto Assyria for a Present to King Jareb: Ephraim shall receive Shame, and Israel shall be ASHAMED of his own COUNSEL.

7 As for Samaria, her King is cut off as the Foam upon the Water.

8 The high Places also of Aven, the Sin of Israel shall be destroyed: the Thorn and the Thistle shall come up on their Altars; and they shall say to the MOUNTAINS, COVER us; and to the HILLS, FALL ON US.

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556 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

their own Land to Affyria unto this Day.

24 And the King of Affyria brought Men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the Cities of Samaria, instead of the Children of Israel; and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the Cities thereof.

25 And so it was at the Beginning of their dwelling there, that they FEARED not the LORD; therefore the LORD sent LIONS amongst them, which slew some of them.

26 Wherefore they spake to the King of Affyria, saying, The Nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the Cities of Samaria, know not the Manner of the GOD of the Land: therefore he hath sent Lions among them, and behold, they slay them, because they know not the Manner of the GOD of the Land.

27 Then the King of Affyria commanded, saying, Carry thither one of the Priests whom ye brought from thence, and let them go and dwell there, and let him teach them the Manner of the GOD of the Land.

28 Then one of the Priests whom they had carried away from Samaria, came and dwelt in Beth-el, and taught them

14 A Tumult shall arise among thy People, and all thy Fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Beth-arbel in the Day of Battle: the Mother was dashed in pieces upon her Children.

Hesai xiii. 16 Samaria shall become DESOLATE, for she hath REBELLED against her GOD: they shall fall by the Sword; their Infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their Women with child shall be ripped up.

Hesai xiv. 9 Who is wise, and he shall understand these Things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the Ways of the LORD are right, and the Just shall walk in them, but the TRANSGRESSORS shall fall therein.

Levit. xxvi. 13 I am the LORD your GOD, which brought you forth out of the Land of Egypt, that ye should not be their Bond-men, and I have broken the Bands of your Yoke, and made you go upright.

14 But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these Commandments

15 And if ye shall despise my Statutes, or if your Soul abhor my Judgments, so that ye will not do all my Commandments, but that ye break my COVENANT,

29 Ye shall eat the Flesh of your Sons, and the Flesh of your Daughters shall ye eat.

30 And I will DESTROY your high Places, and cut down your IMAGES, and cast your Carcases upon the Carcases of your Idols, and my Soul shall abhor you.

31 And I will make your CITIES WASTE, and bring your SANCTUARIES unto DESOLATION, and I will not smell the Savour of your sweet Odours.

32 And I will bring the Land into DESOLATION: and your Enemies which dwell therein shall be astonished at it.

33 And I will SCATTER you among the Heathen, and will draw out a Sword after you, and your Land shall be DESOLATE, and your Cities Waste.

43 The Land also shall be left of them, and shall enjoy her SABBATHS, while she lieth DESOLATE without them, and they shall accept of the Punishment of their Iniquity; because,

how

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 557

how they should fear the LORD.

29 Howbeit, every Nation made Gods of their own, and put them into the Houses of the high Places which the Samaritans had made, every Nation in their Cities wherein they dwelt.

30 And the Men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth, and the Men of Cuth made Nergal, and the Men of Hamath made Ashima.

31 And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their Children in Fire to Adrammelech, and Anammelech, the Gods of Sepharvaim.

32 So they feared the LORD, and made unto themselves of the lowest of them Priests of the high Places.

33 They feared the LORD, and served their own Gods, after the Manner of the Nations whom they carried away from thence.

34 Unto this Day they do after the former Manners: they fear not the LORD, neither do they after their Statutes, or after their Ordinances, or after the Law and Commandment which the LORD commanded the Children of Jacob, whom he named Israel.

35 With whom the LORD had made a Covenant, and charged them, saying, Ye shall not fear other Gods,

even because, they despised my Judgments, and because their Soul abhorred my Statutes.

44 And yet for all that, when they be in the Land of their Enemies, I will NOT CAST THEM AWAY, neither will I ABHOR them, to DESTROY them UTTERLY, and to break my Covenant with them: for I am the LORD their God.

45 But I will for their Sakes remember the Covenant of their Ancestors, whom I brought forth out of the Land of Egypt.

Deut. xxviii. 15 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken to the Voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his Commandments and his Statutes which I command thee this Day, that all these Curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee.

16 CURSED shalt thou be in the City, and CURSED shalt thou be in the Field.

47 Because thou SERVEST NOT the LORD thy GOD with JOYFULNESS, and with GLADNESS of Heart, for the abundance of all Things.

48 Therefore shalt thou SERVE thine ENEMIES, which the LORD shall send against thee, in Hunger, and in Thirst, and in Nakedness, and in Want of all Things: and he shall put a Yoke of Iron upon thy Neck, until he have destroyed thee.

52 And he shall besiege thee in all thy Gates, until thy high and fenced Walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy Land; and he shall besiege thee in all thy Gates, throughout all thy Land, which the LORD thy God hath given thee.

64 And the LORD shall SCATTER thee among all People from the one END of the EARTH even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other Gods, which neither thou nor thy Fathers have known, even Wood and Stone.

65 And among these Nations shalt thou find no EASE, neither shall the SOLE of thy Foot have REST: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling Heart, and Failing of Eyes, and Sorrow of Mind.

Hosea iii. 4 For the Children of Israel shall abide many Days, without a King, and without a Prince, and

nor

448 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

nor bow yourselves to them, nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them.

36 But the LORD who brought you up out of the Land of Egypt, with great Power, and a stretched-out Arm, him shall ye fear, and him shall ye worship, and to him shall ye do Sacrifice.

37 And the Statutes, and the Ordinances, and the Law, and the Commandment which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore, and ye shall not fear other Gods.

38 And the Covenant that I have made with you, ye shall not forget, neither shall ye fear other Gods.

39 But the LORD your God ye shall fear, and he shall deliver you out of the Hand of all your Enemies.

40 Howbeit, they did not hearken, but they did after their former Manner.

41 So these Nations feared the LORD, and served their graven Images, both their Children, and their Childrens Children: as did their Fathers, so do they unto this Day,

without a SACRIFICE, and without an IMAGE, and without an EFFIGY, and without TERAPHIM.

Ist. 3. 5 O Assyrian, the Rod of mine Angel, and the Staff in their Hand is mine Indignation.

6 I will send him against an hypocritical Nation, and against the People of my Wrath will I give him a Charge to take the Spoil, and to take the Prey, and to tread them down like the Mire of the Street.

7 Howbeit, he speaketh not so, neither doth his Heart think so, but it is in his Heart to destroy, and cut off Nations not a few.

12 Wherefore it shall come to pass, that when the LORD hath performed his whole Work upon Mount Sion, and on Jerusalem, I will punish the Fruit of the stout Heart of the King of Assyria, and the Glory of his high Looks.

13 For he saith, By the Strength of my Hand I have done it, and by my Wisdom; for I am prudent: and I have removed the Bounds of the People, and have robbed their Treasures, and I have put down the Inhabitants like a valiant Man.

15 Shall the Ax boast itself against him that heweth therewith? or shall the Saw magnify himself against him that shaketh it? as if the Rod should shake itself against him that lifts it up, or as if the Staff should lift up itself, as if it were no Wood.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XXIX.

1 *Hezekiah his good Reign: 3 Restoreth Religion: 5 He exhorteth the Levites: 12 They sanctify themselves and cleanse the House of GOD. 20 Hezekiah offereth solemn Sacrifices, wherein the Levites were more forward than the Priests.*

Per. 1 **H**EZEKIAH the Son of Ahaz began to reign when he was five and twenty Years old, and he reigned nine and twenty Years in Jerusalem.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his Father had done.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 559

2 KINGS XVIII.

4 And he removed the high Places, and brake the Images, and cut down the Groves, and brake in pieces the brazen Serpent that Moses had made: for unto those Days the Children of Israel did burn Incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

5 He trusted in the LORD GOD of Israel, so that after him was none like him among all the Kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.

6 For he clave to the LORD, and departed not from following him, but kept his Commandments, which the LORD commanded Moses.

7 And the LORD was with him, and he prospered whithersoever he went forth: and he rebelled against the King of Assyria, and served him not.

2 CHRON. XXIX.

3 He, in the first Year of his Reign, in the first Month, opened the Doors of the House of the LORD, and repaired them.

4 And he brought in the Priests and the Levites, and gathered them together into the East-street.

5 And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the House of the LORD GOD of your Fathers, and carry forth the Filthiness out of the holy Place.

6 For our Fathers have trespassed, and done that which is evil in the Eyes of the LORD our GOD, and have forsaken him, and have turned away their Faces from the Habitation of the LORD, and turned their Backs.

7 Also they have shut up the Doors of the Porch, and put out the Lamps, and have not burnt Incense, nor offered Burnt-offerings in the holy Place, unto the GOD of Israel.

8 Wherefore the Wrath of the LORD was upon Judah and Jerusalem, and he hath delivered them to Trouble, to Astonishment, and to Hissing, as ye see with your Eyes.

9 For lo, our Fathers have fallen by the Sword, and our Sons and our Daughters, and our Wives are in Captivity for this.

10 Now it is in mine Heart to make a Covenant with the LORD GOD of Israel, that his fierce Wrath may turn away from us.

11 My Sons, be not now negligent: for the LORD hath chosen

560 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, that you should minister unto him, and burn Incense.

12 Then the Levites arose : of the Sons of the Kohathites ; and of the Sons of Merari ; and of the Gershonites ;

13 And of the Sons of Elizaphan ; and of the Sons of Asaph ;

14 And of the Sons of Heman ; and of the Sons of Jeduthun.

15 And they gathered their Brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came according to the Commandment of the King, by the Words of the LORD, to cleanse the House of the LORD.

16 And the Priests went into the inner Part of the House of the LORD to cleanse it, and brought out all the Uncleaness that they found in the Temple of the LORD, into the Court of the House of the LORD. And the Levites took it, to carry it out abroad unto the Brook Kidron.

17 Now they began on the first Day of the first Month to sanctify, and on the eighth Day of the Month came they to the Porch of the LORD : so they sanctified the House of the LORD in eight Days, and in the sixteenth Day of the first Month they made an end.

18 Then they went in to Hezekiah the King, and said, We have cleansed all the House of the LORD, and the Altar of Burnt-offering, with all the Vessels thereof.

19 Moreover, all the Vessels which King Ahaz in his Reign did cast away in his Transgression, have we prepared and sanctified, and behold, they are before the Altar of the LORD.

20 Then Hezekiah rose early, and gathered the Rulers of the City, and went up to the House of the LORD.

21 And they brought seven Bullocks, and seven Rams, and seven Lambs, and seven He-goats, for a Sin-offering for the Kingdom, and for the Sanctuary, and for Judah : and he commanded the Priests, the Sons of Aaron, to offer them on the Altar of the LORD.

22 So they killed the Bullocks and the Rams, and also the Lambs, they sprinkled the Blood upon the Altar.

23 And they brought forth the He-goats for a Sin-offering, before the King, and the Congregation, and they laid their Hands upon them :

24 * And the Priests killed them, and they made Recon-

* See Heb. x.

ciliation

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 561

ciliation with their Blood upon the Altar, to make an Atonement for all Israel: for the King commanded that the Burnt-offering, and the Sin-offering should be made for all Israel.

25 And he set the Levites in the House of the LORD, with Cymbals, with Psalteries, and with Harps, according to the Commandment of David, and of Gad the King's Seer, and Nathan the Prophet: for so was the Commandment of the LORD by his Prophets.

26 And the Levites stood with the Instruments of David; and the Priests with the Trumpets.

27 And Hezekiah commanded to offer the Burnt-offering upon the Altar: and when the Burnt-offering began, the Song of the LORD began also with the Trumpets, and with the Instruments ordained by David King of Israel.

28 And all the Congregation worshipped, and the Singers sang, and the Trumpeters sounded, and all this continued until the Burnt-offering was finished.

29 And when they had made an end of offering, the King and all that were present with him, bowed themselves and worshipped.

30 Moreover, Hezekiah and the Princes commanded the Levites to sing Praise unto the LORD, with the Words of David, and of Asaph the Seer: and they sang Praises with Gladness, and they bowed their Heads and worshipped.

31 And Hezekiah answered and said, Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto the LORD, come near and bring Sacrifices, and Thank-offerings into the House of the LORD. And the Congregation brought in Sacrifices, and Thank-offerings, and as many as were of a free Heart, Burnt-offerings.

32 And the Number of the Burnt-offerings which the Congregation brought, was threescore and ten Bullocks, an hundred Rams, and two hundred Lambs: all these were for a Burnt-offering to the LORD.

33 And the consecrated Things were six hundred Oxen, and three thousand Sheep.

34 But the Priests were too few, so that they could not slay all the Burnt-offerings: wherefore their Brethren the Levites did help them till the Work was ended, and until the other Priests had sanctified themselves: for the Levites

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562 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

were more upright in Heart, to sanctify themselves, than the Priests.

35 And also the Burnt-offerings were in abundance; so the Service of the House of the LORD was set in order.

36 And Hezekiah rejoyced, and all the People, that God had prepared the People: for the Thing was done suddenly.

C H A P. XXX.

1 Hezekiah proclaimeth a solemn Passover on the second Month for Judah and Israel. 13 The Assembly having destroyed the Altars of Idolatry, keep the Feast fourteen Days. 27 The Priests and Levites bless the People.

Ver. 1 **A**ND Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote Letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the House of the LORD at Jerusalem, to keep the Passover unto the LORD GOD of Israel.

2 For the King had taken Counsel, and his Princes, and all the Congregation in Jerusalem, to keep the Passover in the second Month.

3 For they could not keep it at that Time, because the PRIESTS had not SANCTIFIED themselves sufficiently, neither had the People gathered themselves together to Jerusalem.

4 And the Thing pleased the King, and all the Congregation.

5 So they established a Decree, to make Proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beer-sheba even to Dan, that they should come to keep the Passover unto the LORD GOD of Israel at Jerusalem: for they had not done it of a long time in such Sort as it was written.

6 So the Posts went with the Letters from the King, and his Princes throughout all Israel and Judah, and according to the Commandment of the King, saying, Ye Children of Israel, turn again unto the LORD GOD of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the Remnant of you, that are escaped out of the Hand of the Kings of Assyria.

7 And be not ye like your Fathers, and like your Brethren, which trespassed against the LORD GOD of their Fathers, who therefore gave them up to Desolation, as ye see.

8 Now

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 563

8 Now be ye not stiff-necked as your Fathers were, but yield yourselves unto the LORD, and enter into his Sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever : and serve the LORD your God, that the Fierceness of his Wrath may turn away from you.

9 For if ye turn again unto the LORD, your Brethren, and your Children shall find Compassion before them that lead them Captive, so that they shall come again into this Land : for the LORD your God is gracious and merciful, and will not turn away his Face from you, if ye return unto him.

10 So the Posts passed from City to City, throughout the Countrey of Ephraim and Manasseh, even unto Zebulun : but they laughed them to Scorn, and mocked them.

11 Nevertheless, divers of Asher and Manasseh, and Zebulun, humbled themselves, and came to Jerusalem.

12 Also in Judah, the Hand of God was to give them one Heart to do the Commandment of the King and of the Princes, by the Word of the LORD.

13 And there assembled at Jerusalem much People to keep the Feast of unleavened Bread in the second Month, a very great Congregation.

14 And they arose, and took away the Altars that were in Jerusalem, and all the Altars for Incense took they away, and cast them into the Brook Kidron.

15 Then they killed the Passover on the fourteenth Day of the second Month : and the Priests and the Levites were ASHAMED, and SANCTIFIED themselves, and brought in the Burnt-offerings into the House of the LORD.

16 And they stood in their Places after their Manner, according to the LAW of MOSES : the Priests sprinkled the Blood which they received of the Hand of the Levites.

17 For there were many in the Congregation that were not SANCTIFIED : therefore the Levites had the Charge of the killing of the Passovers for every one that was not CLEAN, to sanctify them unto the LORD.

18 For a multitude of the People, even many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not CLEANSED themselves, yet did they eat the Passover, otherwise than it was written : but Hezekiah PRAYED for them, saying, The GOOD LORD pardon every one

19 That PREPARETH his HEART to SEEK GOD, the
C c c c 2 LORD

564 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

LORD GOD of his Fathers, though he be not **CLEANSSED** according to the **PURIFICATION** of the Sanctuary.

20 And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and **HEALED** the People.

21 And the Children of Israel that were present at Jerusalem, kept the **Feast** of unleavened Bread seven Days with great Gladness: and the Levites, and the Priests praised the LORD Day by Day, singing with loud Instruments unto the LORD.

22 And Hezekiah spake comfortably unto all the Levites, that **TAUGHT** the good **KNOWLEDGE** of the LORD: and they did eat throughout the Feast seven Days, offering Peace-offerings, and making **CONFESSION** to the LORD GOD of their Fathers.

23 And the whole Assembly took Counsel to keep other seven Days: and they kept other seven Days with **GLADNESS**.

24 For Hezekiah did give to the Congregation a thousand Bullocks, and seven thousand Sheep; and the Princes gave to the Congregation a thousand Bullocks, and ten thousand Sheep: and a great Number of Priests sanctified themselves.

25 And all the Congregation of Judah, with the Priests and the Levites, and all the Congregation that came out of Israel, and the Strangers that came out of the Land of Israel, and that dwelt in Judah, **REJOYCED**.

26 So there was great Joy in Jerusalem: for since the **TIME** of **SOLOMON** there was not the like in Jerusalem.

27 Then the Priests the Levites arose, and **BLESSED** the People: and their Voice was heard, and their **PRAYER** came up to his **HOLY** Dwelling-place, even unto **HEAVEN**.

C H A P. XXXI.

1 *The People is forward in destroying Idolatry.* 2 *Hezekiah ordereth the Courses of the Priests and Levites, and provideth for their Work and Maintenance.* 5 *The People's Forwardness in Offerings and Tithes.* 11 *Hezekiah appointeth Officers to dispose of the Tithes.* 20 *The Sincerity of Hezekiah.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW when all this was finished, all Israel that were present, went out to the Cities of Judah, and **BRAKE** the **IMAGES** in picces, and cut down the **GROVES**,
and

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 565

and threw down the high Places and the ALTARS out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly DESTROYED them all. Then all the Children of Israel returned every Man to his Possession, into their own Cities.

2 And Hezekiah appointed the Courses of the Priests and the Levites after their Courses, every Man according to his Service, the Priests and Levites for Burnt-offerings, and for Peace-offerings, to minister and to give Thanks, and to praise in the Gates of the Tents of the LORD.

3 He appointed also the King's Portion of his Substance for the Burnt-offering, to wit, for the Morning and Evening Burnt-offerings, and the Burnt-offerings for the Sabbaths, and for the New-moons, and for the set Feasts, as it is written in the LAW of the LORD.

4 Moreover, He commanded the People that dwelt in Jerusalem to give the Portion of the Priests and the Levites, that they might be ENCOURAGED in the LAW of the LORD.

5 And as soon as the Commandment came abroad, the Children of Israel brought in abundance the FIRST-FRUITs of Corn, Wine, and Oyl, and Honey, and of all the Increase of the Field, and the Tithe of all Things brought they in abundantly.

6 And concerning the Children of Israel and Judah, they also brought in the Tithe of Oxen, and Sheep, and the Tithes of holy Things, which were consecrated unto the LORD their GOD, and laid them by Heaps.

7 In the third Month they began to lay the Foundation of the Heaps, and finished them in the seventh Month.

8 And when Hezekiah and the Princes saw the Heaps, they blessed the LORD and his People Israel.

9 Then Hezekiah questioned with the Priests and the Levites concerning the Heaps.

10 And Azariah the chief Priest of the House of Zadok, answered him, and said, Since the People began to bring the Offerings into the House of the LORD, we have had enough to eat, and have left Plenty: for the LORD hath BLESSED his People; and that which is left, is this great Store.

11 Then Hezekiah commanded to prepare Chambers in the House of the LORD; and they prepared them.

12 And brought in the Offerings, and the Tithes, and
the

566 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

the dedicate Things faithfully : over which Cononiah the Levite was Ruler.

13 At the Commandment of Hezekiah the King, and Azariah the Ruler of the House of God.

19 Also of the Sons of Aaron the Priests, which were in the Fields of the Suburbs of their Cities, in every several City, the Men that were expressed by Name to give Portions to all the Males among the Priests, and to all that were reckoned by Genealogies, among the Levites.

20 And thus did Hezekiah throughout all Judah, and wrought that which was good and right and Truth before the LORD his GOD.

21 And in every Work that he began in the Service of the House of GOD, and in the Law, and in the Commandments to seek his GOD, he did it with all his Heart, and prospered.

2 KINGS XVIII.

13 Now in the fourteenth Year of King Hezekiah, did Sennacherib King of Assyria come up against all the fenced Cities of Judah, and took them.

14 And Hezekiah King of Judah sent to the King of Assyria to Lachish, saying, I have offended, return from me : that which thou puttest on me, I will bear. And the King of Assyria appointed unto Hezekiah King of Judah, three hundred Talents of Silver, and thirty Talents of Gold.

15 And Hezekiah gave him all the Silver that was found in the House of the LORD, and in the Treasures of the King's House.

16 At that Time did Hezekiah cut off the Gold from the Doors of the Temple of the LORD, and from the Pillars which Hezekiah King of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the King of Assyria.

17 And the King of Assyria sent Tartan, and Rabfaria, and Rab-shakeh from Lachish, to King Hezekiah with a great Host against Jerusalem, and they came and stood by the Conduit of the upper Pool, which is in the Highway of the Fuller's Field.

18 And when they had called to the King, there came out to them Eliakim, which was over the Household, and Shebna the Scribe, and Joah the Recorder.

19 And Rab-shakeh said unto them, Speak ye now to Hezekiah, Thus saith the great King, the King of Assyria, What Confidence is this wherein thou trustest?

20 Thou

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 167

20 Thou sayest (but they are but vain Words) I have Counsel and Strength for the War: now on whom dost thou trust, that thou rebellest against me?

21 Now behold, thou trustest upon the Staff of this bruised Reed, even upon Egypt, on which if a Man lean, it will go into his Hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh King of Egypt, unto all that trust on him.

22 But if ye say unto me, We trust in the LORD our GOD: is not that he whose high Places, and whose Altars Hezekiah hath taken away, and hath said to Judah and Jerusalem, Ye shall worship before this Altar in Jerusalem?

23 Now therefore, I pray thee, give Pledges to my Lord the King of Assyria, and I will deliver thee two thousand Horses, if thou be able on thy part to set Riders upon them.

24 How then wilt thou turn away the Face of one Captain of the least of my Master's Servants, and put thy Trust on Egypt for Chariots and for Horsemen?

25 Am I now come up without the LORD against this Place to destroy it? the LORD said to me, Go up against this Land, and destroy it.

26 Then said Eliakim, and Shebna, and Joah, unto Rab-shakeh, Speak, I pray thee, to thy Servants in the Syrian Language (for we understand it) and talk not with us in the Jews Language, in the Ears of the People that are on the Wall.

27 But Rab-shakeh said unto them, Hath my Master sent me to thy Master, and to thee, to speak these Words? hath he not sent me to the Men which sit on the Wall, that they may eat their own Dung, and drink their own Piss with you?

28 Then Rab-shakeh stood and cried with a loud Voice in the Jews Language, and spake, saying, Hear the Word of the great King, the King of Assyria.

29 Thus saith the King, Let not Hezekiah deceive you, for he shall not be able to deliver you out of his Hand.

30 Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, The LORD will surely deliver us, and this City shall not be delivered into the Hand of the King of Assyria.

31 Harken not unto Hezekiah: for thus saith the King of Assyria, Make an Agreement with me by a Present, and come out to me, and then eat ye every Man of his own Vine, and every one of his Fig-tree, and drink ye every one of the Waters of his Cistern.

32 Until

568 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

32 Until I come and take you away to a Land like your own Land, a Land of Corn and Wine, a Land of Bread and Vineyards, a Land of Oyl-olive, and of Honey, that ye may live and not die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying, The LORD will deliver us.

33 Hath any of the Gods of the Nations delivered at all his Land out of the Hand of the King of Assyria?

34 Where are the Gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? where are the Gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? have they delivered Samaria out of mine Hand?

35 Who are they among all the Gods of the Countries that have delivered their Countrey out of mine Hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of mine Hand?

36 But the People held their peace, and answered him not a Word: for the King's Commandment was, saying, Answer him not.

37 Then came Eliakim the Son of Hilkiah, which was over the Household, and Shebna the Scribe, and Joah the Son of Aaph the Recorder, to Hezekiah with their Cloaths rent, and told him the Words of Rab-shakeh.

II. *KINGS*, CHAP. XIX.

1 *Hezekiah mourning, sendeth to Isaiah to pray for them.* 6 *Isaiah comforteth them.* 8 *Sennacherib going to encounter Tirhakah, sendeth a blasphemous Letter to Hezekiah:* 14 *His Prayer.* 20 *Isaiah his Prophecy of the Pride and Destruction of Sennacherib, and the Good of Zion.* 35 *An Angel slayeth the Assyrians.* 36 *Sennacherib is slain at Nineveh by his own Sons.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND * it came to pass when King Hezekiah heard it, that he rent his Cloaths, and covered himself with Sackcloth, and went into the House of the LORD.

2 And he sent Eliakim; and Shebna, and the Elders of the Priests, covered with Sackcloth, to Isaiah the Prophet.

3 And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This Day is a Day of Trouble, and of Rebuke and Blasphemy; for the Children are come to the Birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.

* See Isaiah xxxvi, xxxvii.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 569

4 It may be the LORD thy GOD will hear all the Words of Rab-shakeh whom the King of Assyria hath sent to reproach the living GOD; and will reprove the Words which the LORD thy GOD hath heard: Wherefore lift up **THY PRAYER** for the Remnant that are left.

5 So the Servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

6 And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say to your Master, Thus saith the LORD, Be not **AFRAID** of the Words which thou hast heard, with which the Servants of the King of Assyria have **BLASPHEMED** me.

7 Behold, I will send a **BLAST** upon him, and he shall hear a Rumour, and shall return to his own Land, and I will cause him to fall by the Sword in his own Land.

8 So Rab-shakeh returned, and found the King of Assyria warring against Libnah.

9 And when he heard say of Tirhakah King of Ethiopia, Behold, he is come out to fight against thee: he sent Messengers again unto Hezekiah, saying,

10 Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah: Let not thy GOD in whom thou trustest, deceive thee, saying, Jerusalem shall not be delivered into the Hand of the King of Assyria.

11 Behold, thou hast heard what the Kings of Assyria have done to all Lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered?

12 Have the Gods of the Nations delivered them which my Fathers have destroyed; as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezeph, and the Children of Eden which were in The-lasar?

13 Where is the King of Hamath, and the King of Arpad, and the King of the City of Sepharvaim, of Henah, and Ivah?

14 And Hezekiah received the Letter, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the House of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD GOD of Israel, which dwellest between the Cherubims, thou art the GOD, even thou **ALONE** of all the Kingdoms of the Earth, thou hast made Heaven and Earth.

16 LORD, bow down thine Ear, and hear: Open, LORD, thine Eyes, and see: And hear the Words of Sennacherib which hath sent him to reproach the living GOD.

D d d d . 17 Of

570 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

17 Of a truth, LORD, the Kings of Assyria have destroyed the Nations, and their Lands,

18 And have cast their Gods into the Fire: for they were no Gods, but the Work of Mens Hands, Wood and Stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

19 * Now therefore, O LORD our GOD, I beseech thee, SAVE thou us out of his HAND, that all the Kingdoms of the Earth may KNOW that THOU art the LORD GOD, even THOU ONLY.

20 Then Isaiah the Son of Amos sent to Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, That which thou hast prayed to me against Sennacherib King of Assyria, I have heard.

21 This is the Word that the LORD hath spoken concerning him, The Virgin of the Daughter of Zion hath despised thee, and laughed thee to Scorn, the Daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her Head at thee.

22 Whom hast thou reproached and blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy Voice, and lift up thine Eyes on high? Even against the Holy One of Israel.

23 By thy Messengers thou hast reproached the LORD, and hast said, With the multitude of my Chariots I am come up to the height of the Mountains, to the sides of Lebanon, and will cut down the tall Cedar-trees thereof, and the choice Fir-trees thereof:

* *Psal. xviii.* 1 I will love thee, O LORD, my STRENGTH.

2 The LORD is my ROCK, and my FORTRESS, and my DELIVERER, my GOD, my STRENGTH in whom I will TRUST, my BUCKLER, and the Horn of my SALVATION, and my high Tower.

3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be PRAISED: so shall I be saved from mine Enemies.

6 In my DISTRESS I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: He heard my Voice out of his Temple, and my CRY came before him, even into his Ears.

14 He sent out his Arrows, and SCATTERED them; and he shot out Lightnings, and discomfited them.

16 He sent from Above, he took me, he drew me out of many Waters.

17 He delivered me from my STRONG ENEMY, and from them which hated me: for they were too STRONG for me.

18 They prevented me in the Day of my Calamity: but the LORD was my Stay.

27 For thou wilt save the afflicted People: but wilt bring down high Looks.

30 As for GOD, his Way is PERFECT: the WORD of the LORD is tried: he is a BUCKLER to all those that TRUST in him.

31 For who is GOD save the LORD? or who is a ROCK save our God?

47 It is GOD that AVENGETH me, and subdueth the People under me.

48 He delivereth me from mine ENEMIES: yea, thou liftest me up above those that rise up against me: thou hast delivered me from the violent Man.

49 Therefore will I give Thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the Heathen: and sing Praises unto thy Name.

50 Great DELIVERANCE giveth he to his KING: and sheweth Mercy to

and

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 571

and I will enter into the Lodgings of his Borders, and into the Forest of his Carmel.

24 I have digged and drunk strange Waters, and with the Sole of my Feet have I dried up all the Rivers of besieged Places.

25 Hast thou not heard long ago, how I have done it, and of ancient times, that I have formed it? now have I brought it to pass, that thou shouldest be brought to lay waste fenced Cities into ruinous Heaps.

26 Therefore their Inhabitants were of small Power, they were dismayed, and confounded, they were as the Grass of the Field, and as the green Herb, as the Grass on the House-tops, and as Corn blasted before it is grown up.

27 But I know thy abode, and thy going out, and thy coming in, and thy Rage against me.

28 Because thy Rage against me, and thy Tumult is come up into mine Ears, therefore I will put my Hook in thy Nose, and my Bridle in thy Lips, and I will turn thee back by the Way by which thou camest.

29 And this shall be a Sign unto thee, Ye shall eat this Year such Things as grow of themselves, and in the second Year that which springeth of the same, and in the third Year sow ye and reap, and plant ye Vineyards, and eat the Fruits thereof.

30 And the Remnant that is escaped of the House of Judah, shall yet again take root downward, and bear Fruit upward.

31 For out of Judah shall go forth a Remnant, and they that escape out of Mount Zion: the Zeal of the LORD of Hosts shall do this.

32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the King

D d d d 2 of

his Anointed, to David, and to his Seed for evermore.

Psal. cxv. 1 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy NAME give Glory, for thy Mercy. and for thy Truth's Sake.

2 Wherefore should the Heathen say, Where is now their God?

3 But our God is in the HEAVENS, he hath done whatsoever he pleased.

4 Their Idols are Silver and Gold, the Work of Mens Hands.

5 They that make them, are like unto them, so is every one that trusteth in them.

6 O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he is their HELP and their SHIELD.

Psal. lxxxix. 6 For who in the HEAVEN can be compared unto the LORD? who among the Sons of the MIGHTY can be likened unto the LORD?

7 God is greatly to be feared in the Assembly of the Saints: and to be had in Reverence of all them that are about him.

8 Thou hast a mighty Arm: strong is thy Hand, and high is thy Right Hand.

9 For the LORD is our DEFENCE: and the Holy One of Israel is our KING.

572 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

of Assyria, He shall not come into this City, nor shoot an Arrow there, nor come before it with Shield, nor cast a Bank against it.

33 By the Way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this City, saith the LORD.

34 For I will defend this City to save it, for mine own Sake, and for my Servant David's Sake.

35 ^P And it came to pass that Night, that the ANGEL of the LORD went out, and smote in the Camp of the Assyrians, an HUNDRED FOURSCORE AND FIVE THOUSAND: and when they arose early in the Morning, behold, they were all dead Corpses.

36 So Sennacherib King of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

37 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the House of Nisroch his God, that Adrammelech and Shazer his Sons smote him with the Sword: and they escaped into the Land of Armenia; and Esar-haddon his Son reigned in his stead.

Hand: but it shall not come nigh thee.

8 Only with thine Eyes shalt thou behold, and see the Reward of the Wicked.

9 Because thou hast made the LORD which is my Refuge, even the most High, thy Habitation:

11 For he shall give his ANGELS Charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy WAYS.

Heb. i. 7 And of the ANGELS he saith, Who maketh his ANGELS SPIRITS, and his MINISTERS a FLAME OF FIRE

14 Are they not all MINISTRING SPIRITS, sent forth to minister for them who shall be HEIRS OF SALVATION?

Psal. lxxvi. 1 In Judah is God known, his Name is GREAT in Israel

3 There brake he the ARROWS of the Bow, the Shield, and the Sword, and the Battle.

5 The Stout-hearted are spoiled, they have slept their Sleep, and none of the Men of Might have found their Hands.

7 Thou, even thou art to be feared, and who may stand in thy sight when thou art angry?

^{Psal. xxxiv. 3} O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his Name together.

4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my Fears.

5 They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their Faces were not ashamed.

6 This poor Man CRIED, and the LORD heard him; and SAVED him out of all his Troubles.

7 The ANGEL of the LORD encampeth round about them that FEAR him, and delivereth them.

8 O taste and see that the LORD is GOOD: blessed is the Man that TRUSTETH in him.

Psal. xci. 1 He that dwelleth in the secret Place of the most High, shall abide under the SHADOW of the ALMIGHTY.

2 I will say of the LORD, He is my REFUGE and my FORTRESS: my GOD, in him will I TRUST.

5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the TERROR by Night: nor for the Arrow that flieth by Day.

7 A THOUSAND shall fall at thy Side, and TEN THOUSAND at thy Right

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 573

10 Surely the Wrath of Man shall PRAISE thee: the Remainder of WRATH shalt thou restrain.

12 He shall cut off the SPIRIT of PRINCES: he is TERRIBLE to the KINGS of the Earth.

C H A P. XX.

1 Hezekiah receiving a Message of Death, by Prayer hath his Life lengthened. 8 The Sun goeth ten Degrees backward for a Sign of that Promise. 12 Berodach-baladan sending to visit Hezekiah, because of the Wonder, hath Notice of his Treasures. 14 Isaiah understanding thereof, foretelleth the Babylonian Captivity. 20 Manasseh succeedeth Hezekiah.

Ver. 1 **I**N ⁹ those Days was Hezekiah * sick unto Death: and the Prophet Isaiah came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine House in order, for thou shalt die, and not live.

2 Then he turned his Face to the Wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying,

3 I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in Truth, and with a perfect Heart, and have done that which was good in thy sight: and Hezekiah wept fore.

4 And it came to pass afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle Court, that the Word of the LORD came to him, saying,

5 ¹ Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the Captain of my People, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy Father, I have heard thy Prayer, I have seen thy Tears: behold, I will heal thee; on the third Day thou shalt go up into the House of the LORD.

6 And I will add unto thy

⁹ 2 Cor. i. 9 We had the Sentence of DEATH in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God, which raiseth the Dead.

¹⁰ Who delivered us from so great a Death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us:

Psal. xc. 3 Thou turnest Man to Destruction: and sayest, Return ye Children of Men.

¹² So teach us to number our Days, that we may apply our HEARTS unto WISDOM.

¹³ Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy Servants.

¹ *Psal. ciii. 2* Bless the LORD, O my Soul, and forget not all his Benefits.

³ Who forgiveth all thine Iniquities: who healeth all thy Diseases.

⁴ Who redeemeth thy Life from Destruction: who crowneth thee with Loving-kindness and tender Mercies.

¹⁵ As for Man, his Days are as GRASS: as a Flower of the Field, so he flourisheth.

¹⁶ For the Wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the Place thereof shall know it no more.

* See Isaiah xxxviii.

Days

574 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

Days fifteen Years, and I will deliver thee and this City out of the Hand of the King of Assyria, and I will defend this City for mine own Sake, and for my Servant David's Sake.

7 And Isaiah said, Take a Lump of Figs. And they took and laid it on the Boyl, and he recovered.

8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the Sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the House of the LORD the third Day?

9 And Isaiah said, This Sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the Thing that he hath spoken : shall the Shadow go forward ten Degrees, or go back ten Degrees?

10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the Shadow to go down ten Degrees : nay, but let the Shadow return backward ten Degrees.

11 * And Isaiah the Prophet cried unto the LORD, and he brought the Shadow ten Degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the Dial of Ahaz.

12 At that Time, Bero-dah-baladan the Son of Baladan, King of Babylon, sent Letters and a Present unto Hezekiah : for he had heard that Hezekiah had been sick.

13 And Hezekiah hearkened unto them, and shewed them all the House of his precious Things, the Silver, and the Gold, and the Spices, and the precious Ointment, and all the House of his Armour, and all that was found in his Treasures : there was nothing in his House, nor in all his Dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

14 Then came Isaiah the Prophet unto King Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these Men? from whence came they unto thee? and Hezekiah said, They are come from a far Countrey, even from Babylon.

15 And he said, What have they seen in thine House? and Hezekiah answered, All the Things that are in mine House

17 But the MERCY of the LORD is from EVERLASTING TO EVERLASTING upon them that fear him : and his RIGHTEOUSNESS unto Childreſs Children.

* Joshua x. 12 Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the Day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the Children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, SUN, stand thou still upon GIBSON, and thou MOON in the Valley of AJATON.

13 And the Sun stood still, and the Moon stayed, until the People had avenged themselves upon their Enemies. So the SUN stood still in the midst of Heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole Day.

14 And there was no Day like that before or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the Voice of a Man : for the LORD fought for Israel.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 575

House have they seen : there is nothing among my Treasures, that I have not shewed them.

16 And **Isaiah** said unto **Hezekiah**, Hear the Word of the **LORD**.

17 Behold, the Days come, that all that is in thine House, and that which thy Fathers have laid up in store unto this Day, shall be carried into **Babylon** : nothing shall be left, saith the **LORD**.

18 And of thy Sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away, and they shall be Eunuchs in the Palace of the King of **Babylon**.

19 Then said **Hezekiah** unto **Isaiah**, Good is the Word of the **LORD** which thou hast spoken. And he said, Is it not good if **PEACE** and **TRUTH** be in my Days?

21 And **Hezekiah** slept with his Fathers : and **Manasseh** his Son reigned in his stead.

II. CHRON. CHAP. XXXIII.

1 *Manasseh his wicked Reign : 3 He setteth up Idolatry, and would not be admonished : 11 He is carried away into Babylon : 12 Upon his praying to GOD he is released, and putteth down Idolatry : 18 His Acts : 20 He dying, Amon succeedeth him. 21 Amon reigning wickedly, is slain by his Servants. 25 The Murderers being slain, Josiah is made King.*

Ver. 1 **M**ANASSEH was twelve Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and five Years in **Jerusalem** :

2 But did that which was evil in the sight of the **LORD**, like unto the **ABOMINATION** of the **HEATHEN**, whom the **LORD** had **CAST OUT** before the Children of **Israel**.

3 For he built again the **HIGH PLACES** which **Hezekiah** had broken down, and he reared the Altar for **BAALIM**, and worshipped all the Host of Heaven, and served them.

4 Also he built **ALTARS** in the House of the **LORD**, whereof the **LORD** had said, In **Jerusalem** shall my Name be for ever.

5 And he built **ALTARS** for all the Host of Heaven, in the two Courts of the House of the **LORD**.

6 And he caused his **CHILDREN** to pass through the **FIRE** in the Valley of the Son of **Hinnom** : also he observed Times,

576 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

Times, and used INCHANTMENTS, and used WITCH-CRAFT, and dealt with a FAMILIAR SPIRIT, and with WIZARDS : he wrought much Evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to Anger.

7 And he set a carved IMAGE (the IDOL which he had made) in the House of GOD, of which GOD had said to David, and to Solomon his Son, In this House, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen before all the Tribes of Israel, will I put my Name for ever.

8 Neither will I any more remove the Foot of Israel from out of the Land which I have appointed for your Fathers ; so that they will take heed to do all that I have commanded them, according to the whole Law, and the Statutes, and the Ordinances by the Hand of Moses.

9 So Manasseh made Judah and the Inhabitants of Jerusalem to ERR, and to do WORSE than the Heathen, whom the LORD had destroyed.

10 And the LORD spake to Manasseh, and to his People, by his Servants the Prophets, saying,

2 KINGS XXI.

11 Because Manasseh King of Judah hath done these Abominations, and hath done wickedly, above all that the Amorites did, which were before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his Idols :

12 Therefore thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, Behold, I am bringing such Evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his Ears shall tingle.

13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the Line of Samaria, and the Plummets of the House of Ahab : and I will wipe Jerusalem as a Man wipeth a Dish, wiping it, and turning it upside down.

14 And I will forsake the Remnant of mine Inheritance, and deliver them into the Hand of their Enemies, and they shall become a Prey, and a Spoil to all their Enemies ;

15 Because they have done that which was evil in my sight, and have provoked me to Anger since the Day their Fathers came forth out of Egypt, even unto this Day.

16 Moreover, Manasseh shed innocent Blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one End to another, beside his Sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

2 CHRON.

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 577

2 CHRON. XXXIII.

11 Wherefore the LORD brought upon them the Captains of the Host of the King of Assyria, which took Manassêh among the Thorns, and bound him with Fetters, and carried him unto Babylon.

12 ^t And when he was in Affliction, he BESOUGHT the LORD his GOD, and HUMBLED himself greatly before the GOD of his Fathers.

13 And PRAYED unto him, and he was ENTREATED of him, and heard his Supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem, into his Kingdom. Then Manassêh KNEW that the LORD he was GOD.

15 And he took away the strange Gods, and the IDOL out of the House of the LORD, and all the Altars that he had built in the Mount of the House of the LORD, and in Jerusalem, and cast them out of the City.

16 And he repaired the Altar of the LORD, and sacrificed thereon Peace-offerings, and Thank-offerings, and commanded Judah to serve the LORD GOD of Israel.

17 Nevertheless, the People did sacrifice still in the high Places, yet unto the LORD their GOD only.

18 Now the rest of the Acts of Manassêh, and his Prayer unto his GOD, and the Words of the Seers that spake to him in the Name of the LORD GOD of Israel, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel.

19 His Prayer also, and how GOD was intreated of him, and all his Sin, before he was humbled; they are written among the Sayings of the Seers.

20 So Manassêh slept with his Fathers, and they buried him in his own House: and Amon his Son reigned in his stead.

21 Amon was two and twenty Years old when he began to reign, and reigned two Years in Jerusalem.

22 But he did that which was EVIL in the sight of the LORD, as did Manassêh his Father: for Amon sacrificed

E c c e unto

^{Isa. lv. 7} Let the Wicked forsake his Way, and the unrighteous Man his Thoughts, and let him RETURN unto the LORD, and he will have MERCY upon him, and to our GOD, and he will abundantly PARDON.

⁸ For my Thoughts are not your Thoughts, neither are your Ways my Ways, saith the LORD.

⁹ For as the Heavens are higher than the Earth, so are my Ways than your Ways, and my Thoughts than your Thoughts.

^{Jer. xxxi. 19} Surely after that I was turned, I REPENTED: and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my Thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I did bear the REPROACH of my YOUTH.

578 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

unto all the CARVED IMAGES which Manasseh had made, and served them;

23 And HUMBLED not himself before the LORD, as Manasseh his Father had humbled himself; but Amon trespassed more and more.

24 And his Servants conspired against him, and slew him in his own House.

25 But the People of the Land slew all them that had conspired against King Amon, and the People of the Land made JOSIAH his Son King in his stead.

C H A P. XXXIV.

1 *Josiah his good Reign: 3 He destroyeth Idolatry: 8 He taketh Order for the Repair of the Temple. 14 Hilkiab having found a Book of the Law, Josiah sendeth to Huldah to enquire of the LORD. 23 Huldah prophesieth the Destruction of Jerusalem, but respite thereof in Josiah's Time. 29 Josiah causing it to be read in a solemn Assembly, reneweth the Covenant with God.*

Ver. 1 JOSIAH was eight Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty Years.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the Ways of DAVID his Father, and declined neither to the Right Hand nor to the Left.

3 For in the eighth Year of his Reign, while he was yet YOUNG, he began to SEEK after the GOD of David his Father: and in the twelfth Year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high Places, and the Groves, and the carved Images, and the molten Images.

2 KINGS XXIII.

10 And he defiled Topheth, which is in the Valley of the Children of Hinnom, that no Man might make his Son or his Daughter to pass through the Fire to Molech.

11 And he took away the Horses that the Kings of Judah had given to the SUN, at the Entering in of the House of the LORD, by the Chamber of Nathan-Melech the Chamberlain which was in the Suburbs, and burnt the Chariots of the Sun with Fire.

12 And the Altars that were on the top of the upper Chamber

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 579

Chamber of Ahaz, which the Kings of Judah had made, and the Altars which Manasseh had made in the two Courts of the House of the LORD, did the King beat down, and brake them down from thence, and cast the Dust of them into the Brook Kidron.

13 And the high Places that were before Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the Mount of Corruption, which Solomon the King of Israel had builded for Ashtoreth the Abomination of the Zidonians, and for Chemosh the Abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the Abomination of the Children of Ammon, did the King defile.

14 And he brake in pieces the Images, and cut down the Groves, and filled their Places with the Bones of Men.

15 Moreover, the Altar that was at Beth-el, and the high Place which Jeroboam, had made, both that Altar and the high Place he brake down, and burnt the high Place, and stamp't it small to Powder, and burnt the Grove.

2 CHRON. XXXIV.

4 ^a And they brake down the Altars of BAALIM in his Presence; and the Images that were on high above them, he cut down, and the Groves, and the carved Images, and the molten Images he brake in pieces, and made Dust of them, and STROWED it upon the Graves of them that had sacrificed unto them.

5 And he burnt the BONES of the PRIESTS upon their Altars, and cleansed Judah and Jerusalem.

6 And so did he in the Cities of Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Simeon, even unto Naphtali.

7 And when he had broken down the Altars and the Groves, and had beaten the graven Images into Powder, and cut down all the Idols throughout all the Land of Israel, he returned to Jerusalem.

8 ^w Now in the eighteenth [†] Year of his Reign, when he had purged the Land, and the

^a 1 Kings xiii. 1 ^{*} And there came a MAN of God unto Beth-el.

2 And he cried against the Altar in the Word of the LORD, and said, O Altar, Altar, thus saith the LORD, Behold, a Child shall be born unto the House of David, Josiah by Name, and upon thee shall he offer the Priests of the high Places that burnt Incense upon thee, and Mens Bones shall be burnt upon thee.

^w Jer. i. 1 The Words of Jeremiah the Son of Hilkiah, of the Priests that were in Anathoth in the Land of Benjamin:

^{*} This Prophecy was about 340 Years before Josiah's Birth.

[†] Dr. Lightfoot observes, That as Moses was a Teacher in the Wilderness forty Years; so was Jeremy in their own Land a Prophet and Teacher of the Israelites, before they went into the Wilderness of the Heathen.

E e e e 2

House,

580 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

House, he sent Shaphan, and Maaseiah the Governour of the City, and Joah the Recorder, to repair the House of the LORD his God.

2 To whom the Word of the LORD came in the Days of JOSIAH the Son of AMON King of Judah, in the thirteenth Year of his Reign.

9 And when they came to Hilkiah the High Priest, they delivered the Money that was brought into the House of GOD, which the Levites had gathered, of all the REMNANT of Israel, and of all Judah, and Benjamin.

10 And they put it into the Hand of the Workmen, that had the Oversight of the House of the LORD, to repair and mend the House.

12 And the Men did the Work faithfully.

14 And Hilkiah the Priest found a BOOK of the LAW of the LORD given by MOSES.

15 And Hilkiah said to Shaphan the Scribe, I have found the BOOK of the LAW in the House of the LORD. And Hilkiah delivered the Book to Shaphan :

16 And Shaphan carried the Book to the King.

18 And Shaphan read it before the King.

19 And it came to pass when the King had heard the WORDS of the LAW, that he rent his Cloaths.

20 And the King commanded Hilkiah, and Ahikam, and Abdon, and Shaphan, and Afsaiah, saying,

21 Go, enquire of the LORD for me, and for them that are LEFT in ISRAEL, and in Judah, concerning the WORDS of the BOOK that is found : for great is the WRATH of the LORD that is poured out upon us, because our Fathers have not KEPT the Word of the LORD, to do after all that is written in this Book.

22 And Hilkiah, and they that the King had appointed, went to HULDAH the PROPHETESS, and they spake to her to that Effect.

23 And she answered them, Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel, Tell ye the Man that sent you to me,

24 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring Evil upon this Place, and upon the Inhabitants thereof, even all the CURSES that are written in the Book which they have read before the King of Judah :

25 Because they have FORSAKEN me, and have burned Incense unto other Gods, that they might provoke me to Anger with all the Works of their Hands; therefore my Wrath shall be poured out upon this Place, and shall not be quenched.

26 And

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 581

26 And as for the King of Judah, who sent you to enquire of the LORD, so shall ye say unto him, Thus saith the LORD GOD of Israel concerning the Words which thou hast heard.

27 Because thine HEART was TENDER, and thou didst HUMBLE thyself before GOD, when thou heardest his WORDS against this Place, and against the Inhabitants thereof, and humblest thyself before me, and didst rend thy Cloaths, and weep before me; I have even HEARD thee also, saith the LORD.

28 Behold, I will gather thee to thy Fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy Grave in PEACE, neither shall thine Eyes see all the Evil that I will bring upon this Place, and upon the INHABITANTS of the same. So they brought the King word again.

29 Then the King sent and gathered together all the Elders of Judah.

30 And the King went up into the House of the LORD, and the Priests, and the Levites, and all the People, great and small: and he read in their Ears all the Words of the BOOK of the COVENANT, that was found in the House of the LORD.

31 And the King stood in his Place, and made a COVENANT before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his Commandments, and his Testimonies, and his Statutes, with all his HEART, and with all his SOUL, to perform the Words of the COVENANT which are written in this Book.

32 And he caused all that were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand to it. And the Inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the Covenant of GOD, the GOD of their Fathers.

33 And Josiah took away all the Abominations out of all the Countries that pertained to the Children of Israel, and made all that were present in Israel to serve the LORD their GOD. And all his Days they departed not from following the LORD, the GOD of their Fathers.

C H A P. XXXV.

1 *Josiah keepeth a most solemn Passover: 20 He provoking Pharaoh-necho, is slain at Megiddo. 25 Lamentation for Josiah.*

Ver.

582 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

Ver. 1 **M**OREOVER, Jofiah kept a Paffover unto the LORD in Jerufalem : and they killed the Paffover on the fourteenth Day of the firft Month.

2 And he fet the Priests in their Charges, and encouraged them to the Service of the Houfe of the LORD,

3 And faid unto the Levites that taught all Ifrael which were holy unto the LORD, Put the holy Ark in the Houfe which Solomon did build ; it fhall not be a Burden upon your Shoulders : *SERVE NOW* the LORD your GOD, and his People Ifrael.

4 And *PREPARE* yourselves after your Courses, according to the writing of David, and of Solomon.

5 And ftand in the holy Place according to the Divifions of your Families.

6 So kill the Paffover, and *SANCTIFY* yourselves, and prepare your Brethren, that they may do according to the Word of the LORD by the Hand of Mofes.

7 And Jofiah gave to the People, of the Flock, Lambs and Kids, for all the Paffover-offerings.

10 So the Service was prepared, and the Priests ftood in their PLACE, and the Levites in their COURSES, according to the King's Commandment.

11 And they killed the Paffover, and the Priests fprinkled the Blood from their Hands, and the Levites flayed them.

13 And they roasted the Paffover with Fire, according to the *ORDINANCE* : but the other holy Offerings divided they fpedily among all the People.

14 And afterward they made ready for themfelves, and for the Priests : becaufe the Priests the Sons of Aaron were bufied in offering of Burnt-offerings.

15 And the Singers the Sons of Afaph were in their Place, according to the Commandment of David, and Afaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun the King's Seer.

16 So all the Service of the LORD was prepared the fame Day, to keep the Paffover, and to offer Burnt-offerings upon the Altar of the LORD, according to the Commandment of King Jofiah.

17 And the Children of Ifrael that were prefent, kept the Paffover at that Time, and the Feaft of unleavened Bread feven Days.

18 And there was no Paffover like to that kept in Ifrael, from the Days of Samuel the Prophet, neither did all the Kings of Ifrael keep fuch a Paffover as Jofiah kept.

19 In

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 583

19 In the eighteenth Year of the Reign of * Jofiah was this Paffover kept.

20 After all this, when Jofiah had prepared the Temple, Necho King of Egypt came up to fight againft Carchemifh by Euphrates : and Jofiah went out againft him.

21 But he fent Ambaffadors to him, faying, What have I to do with thee, thou King of Judah? I come not againft thee this Day, but againft the Houfe wherewith I have War : for GOD commanded me to make hafte : forbear thee from meddling with GOD, who is with me, that he deftroy thee not.

22 Nevertheless Jofiah would not turn his Face from him, but difguifed himfelf that he might fight with him, and hearkened not unto the Words of Necho from the Mouth of GOD, and came to fight in the Valley of Megiddo.

23 And the Archers fhot at King Jofiah ; and the King faid to his Servants, Have me away, for I am fore wounded.

24 His Servants therefore took him out of that Chariot, and put him in the fecond Chariot that he had ; and they brought him to Jerufalem, and he died, and was buried in one of the Sepulchres of his Fathers : and all Judah and Jerufalem mourned for Jofiah.

25 * And Jeremiah lamented for Jofiah, and all the Singing-men, and the Singing-women, fpake of Jofiah in their Lamentations to this Day, and made them an Ordinance in Ifrael : and behold, they are written in the Lamentations.

* Jer. xxii. 10 Weep ye not for the DEAD, neither bemoan him, but weep fore for him that GOTH AWAY : for he fhall return no more, nor fee his native Countrey.

26 Now the reft of the Acts of Jofiah, and his Goodnefs, according to that which was written in the Law of the LORD,

27 They are written in the Book of the Kings of Ifrael and Judah.

C H A P. XXXVI.

1 *Jehoahaz fucceeding, is depofed by Pharaoh, and carried into Egypt.* 5 *Jehoiakim reigning ill, is carried bound into Babylon.* 9 *Jehoiachin fucceeding, reigneth ill, and is brought into Babylon.* 11 *Zedekiah fucceeding, reigneth ill, and difpifeth the Prophets, and rebelleth againft Nebuchadnezzar.*

* Towards the latter End of Jofiah's Reign, Zephaniah began to prophecy who is fuppofed to be the Great-grandfon of King Hezekiah.

14 Jeru-

584 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

14 Jerusalem, for the Sins of the Priests and People, is wholly destroyed.

Ver. 1 **T**HEN the People of the Land took Jehoahaz, the Son of Josiah, and made him King in his Father's stead.

2 Jehoahaz was twenty and three Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three Months in Jerusalem.

3 And the King of Egypt put him down at Jerusalem, and condemned the Land in an hundred Talents of Silver, and a Talent of Gold.

4 And the King of Egypt made Eliakim his Brother King over Judah, and turned his Name to Jehoiakim. And Necho ⁷ took Jehoahaz his Brother, and carried him to Egypt, and he died there.

7 Jer. xxii. 11 Thus saith the Lord touching Shallum the Son of Josiah King of Judah, which reigned instead of Josiah his Father, which went forth out of this Place, He shall not return thither any more.

12 But he shall die in the Place whither they have led him Captive, and shall see this Land no more.

5 ⁸ Jehoiakim was twenty and five Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven Years in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

8 Jer. xvi. 1 In the Beginning of the Reign of Jehoiakim the Son of Josiah King of Judah, came this Word from the Lord, saying,

2 Thus saith the Lord, Stand in the Court of the Lord's House, and speak unto all the Cities of Judah, which come to worship in the Lord's House, all the Words that I com-

mand thee to speak unto them; DIMINISH NOT A WORD:

3 If so be they will HEARKEN, and TURN every Man from his EVIL WAY, that I may repent me of the Evil which I purpose to do unto them, because of the EVIL of their DOINGS.

4 And thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord, if ye will not hearken unto me, to WALK in my Law, which I have set before you.

5 TO HEARKEN to the WORDS of my Servants the PROPHETS, whom I sent unto you both rising up early and sending them.

6 Then will I make this House like SHILON, and will make this City a CURSE to all the NATIONS of the Earth.

7 So the PRIESTS, and the PROPHETS, and all the People heard Jeremiah speaking these WORDS in the HOUSE of the LORD.

8 Now it came to pass, when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak unto all the People, that the PRIESTS, and the PROPHETS, and all the People took him, saying, Thou shalt surely die.

12 Then spake Jeremiah unto the PRINCES, and unto all the People, saying, The LORD sent me to PROPHESY all the Words that ye have heard.

13 Therefore now, AMEND your WAYS and your DOINGS, and OBEY the VOICE of the LORD your GOD, and the LORD will repent him of the Evil that he hath pronounced against you.

14 As for me, Behold, I am in your Hand: do with me as seemeth meet unto you.

17 Then

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 38,

17 Then certain of the Elders spake to all the People, saying,

18 MICAH the Morasthite prophesied in the Days of Hezekiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD of Hosts, ZION shall be plowed like a Field, and JERUSALEM shall become HEAPS.

19 Did Hezekiah and all Judah put him at all to DEATH? did he not FEAR the LORD, and smother the LORD, and the LORD repented him of the Evil which he had pronounced against them? Thus might we procure great EVIL against our Souls.

20 And there was also a Man that PROPHESIED in the Name of the LORD, URIAH, who PROPHESIED against this City, and against this Land, according to all the Words of Jeremiah.

21 And when Jehoiakim and all the PRINCES heard his Words, the King sought to put him to Death; but when URIAH heard it he was afraid, and fled into Egypt.

22 And Jehoiakim the King sent Men into Egypt.

23 And they set forth URIAH out of Egypt, and brought him unto Jehoiakim, who slew him, and cast his dead Body into the Grave of the common People.

24 Nevertheless, the Hand of Ahikam was with Jeremiah, that they should not put him to DEATH.

Jer. xxxvi. 1 And in the fourth Year of Jehoiakim, this Word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Take thee a ROLL of a Book, and write therein all the Words that I have spoken unto thee against ISRAEL, and against JUDAH, and against all the NATIONS, from the Day I spake unto thee, from the Days of JOSHUA, even unto this Day.

3 It may be that the House of Judah will hear all the EVIL which I purpose to do unto them; that they may return every Man from his EVIL Way, that I may forgive their Iniquity and their Sin.

4 Then Jeremiah called Baruch, who wrote all the Words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a ROLL of a Book.

5 And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, I am shut up, I cannot go into the House of the LORD.

6 Therefore go thou and read in the ROLL the Words of the LORD in the Bars of the People in the LORD's House upon the Fasting day.

7 It may be they will present their SUPPLICATION before the LORD, and will return every one from his EVIL WAY; for great is the ANGER and the FURY that the LORD hath pronounced against this People.

8 And BARUCH did according to all that Jeremiah the Prophet commanded him, reading in the Book the Words of the LORD in the LORD's House.

9 And in the fifth Year of Jehoiakim they proclaimed a FAST before the LORD.

10 Then read Baruch the Words of Jeremiah in the House of the LORD.

11 When Michaiah had heard out of the Book all the Words of the LORD,

12 Then he went down into the King's House, into the Scribes Chamber, and so, all the PRINCES sat there.

13 Then Michaiah declared unto them all the Words that he had heard.

14 Therefore all the PRINCES sent Jehudi unto Baruch, saying, Take in thine Hand the ROLL.

15 And they said unto him, Read it. So Baruch read it.

16 When they had heard all the Words, they were AFRAID, and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the King of all these Words.

17 And they asked Baruch, saying, Tell us now, how didst thou write all these Words at his Mouth?

18 Then Baruch answered them, He pronounced all these Words unto me, and I wrote them.

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19 Then

586 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

19 Then said the PRINCES unto Baruch, Go hide thee, thou and Jeremiah, and let no Man know where ye be.

20 And they went in to the King into the Court, but they laid up the Roll in the Chamber of Elishema the Scribe, and told all the Words in the Ears of the King.

21 So the King sent Jehudi to fet the Roll, and Jehudi read it in the Ears of the King, and in the Ears of all the Princes which stood beside the King.

22 Now the King sat in the Winter-house, in the ninth Month; and there was a Fire on the Hearth.

23 And it came to pass that when Jehudi had read three or four Leaves, he cut it with the Penknife, and cast it into the Fire, until all the Roll was consumed.

24 Yet they were not AFRAID, nor rent their Garments, neither the King, nor any of his Servants that heard all these Words.

25 But the King commanded Jerahmeel, and Seraiah, and Shelamiah, to take Baruch the Scribe, and Jeremiah the Prophet; but the LORD hit them.

27 Then the Word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying,

28 Take thee again another Roll, and write in it all the former Words that were in the first Roll.

29 And thou shalt say to Jehoiakim, Thus saith the LORD, Thou hast burnt this Roll, saying, Why hast thou written, saying, The King of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this Land, and shall cause to cease from thence Man and Beast?

30 Therefore thus saith the LORD of Jehoiakim King of Judah, He shall have none to sit upon the Throne of David, and his dead Body shall be cast out in the Day to the Heat, and in the Night to the Frost.

31 And I will punish him and his Seed, and his Servants, for their Iniquity, and I will bring upon the Men of Judah all the Evil that I have PRONOUNCED against them, but they HEARKENED NOT.

32 Then took Jeremiah ANOTHER Roll, and gave it to Baruch, who wrote therein from the Mouth of Jeremiah all the Words of the Book which Jehoiakim had burnt, and there were added besides unto them, many LIKE WORDS.

II. *KINGS*, CHAP. XXIV.

1 *Jehoiakim first subdued by Nebuchadnezzar, then rebelling against him, procureth his own Ruin.* 5 *Jehoiakim succeedeth him.* 7 *The King of Egypt is vanquished by the King of Babylon.* 8 *Jehoiakim his evil Reign.* 10 *Jerusalem is taken and carried Captive into Babylon.* 17 *Zedekiah is made King, and reigneth ill, unto the utter Destruction of Judah.*

Ver. 1 IN his Days Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his Servant three Years: then he turned and rebelled against him.

2 And the LORD sent against him Bands of the Chaldees, and Syrians, and Moabites, and of the Children of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the
WORD

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 587

WORD of the **LORD**, which he spake by his Servants the Prophets.

3 Surely at the Commandment of the **LORD** came this upon Judah, to remove them out of his sight for the Sins of Manasseh, according to all that he did.

4 And also for the **INNOCENT BLOOD** that he shed (for he filled Jerusalem with innocent Blood) which the **LORD** would not pardon.

5 Now the rest of the Acts of Jehoiakim, and his Abominations, and all that he did, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Judah?

6 So Jehoiakim slept with his Fathers: and Jehoiachin his Son reigned in his stead.

8 Jehoiachin was eighteen Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three Months.

9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the **LORD**, according to all that his Father had done.

10 At that Time the Servants of Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the City was besieged.

11 And Nebuchadnezzar came against the City, and his Servants did besiege it.

12 And Jehoiachin the King of Judah went out to the King of Babylon, he and his Mother, and his Princes, and his Officers: and the King of Babylon took him in the **EIGHTH** Year of his Reign.

13 And he carried out thence all the Treasures of the House of the **LORD**, and the Treasures of the King's House, and cut in pieces all the Vessels of Gold which Solomon King of Israel had made in the Temple of the **LORD**, as the **LORD** had SAID.

14 And he carried away all the Princes, and all the mighty Men of Valour, even ten thousand Captives, and all the Craftsmen and Smiths: none remained save the poorest sort of the People of the Land.

15 And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon, his Wives, and his Officers.

16 And all the Men of Might, even seven thousand, and Craftsmen, and Smiths a thousand, all that were strong, and apt for War, were brought Captive to Babylon.

17 And the King of Babylon made Mattaniah his Father's Brother King in his stead, and changed his Name to Zedekiah.

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18 Zede-

588 *KINGS and CHRONICLES.*

18 Zedekiah was twenty and one Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven Years in Jerusalem.

19 And he did that which was evil in the Sight of the LORD, according to all that Jehoiakim had done.

20 For through the Anger of the LORD it came to pass in Jerusalem and Judah, until he had cast them out from his Presence, that Zedekiah rebelled against the King of Babylon.

C H A P. XXV.

1 Jerusalem is besieged. 4 Zedekiah taken, his Sons slain, and his Eyes put out. 8 Nebuzaradan defaceth the City, carrieth the Remnant, except a few poor Labourers, into Captivity: 13. Spoileth and carrieth away the Treasures. 18 The Nobles are slain at Riblah. 22 Gedaliah, who was set over them that remained, being slain, the rest flee into Egypt. 27 Evil-merodach advanceth Jeboiachin in his Court.

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass in the ninth Year of his Reign, in the tenth Day of the tenth Month, that Nebuchadnezzar came, and all his Host, against Jerusalem.

2 And the City was besieged unto the eleventh Year of King Zedekiah.

3 And on the ninth Day of the fourth Month, the Famine prevailed in the City, and there was no Bread for the People of the Land.

4 And the City was broken up, and all the Men of War fled by Night, by the Way of the Gate between two Walls which is by the King's Garden (now the Chaldees were against the City round about) and the King went away toward the Plain.

5 And the Army of the Chaldees pursued after the King, and overtook him in the Plains of Jericho: and all his Army was scattered from him.

6 So they took the King, and brought him up to the King of Babylon, to Riblah, and they gave Judgment upon him.

7 And they slew the Sons of Zedekiah before his Eyes, and put out the Eyes of Zedekiah, and bound him with Fetters of Brass, and carried him to Babylon.

8 And in the fifth Month, on the seventh Day of the Month which is the nineteenth Year of King Nebuchadnezzar)

KINGS and CHRONICLES. 589

hezzer) came Nebuzaradan, Captain of the Guard of the King of Babylon unto Jerusalem :

9 And he burnt the House of the LORD, and the King's House, and all the Houses of Jerusalem.

10 And all the Army of the Chaldees that were with the Captain of the Guard, brake down the Walls of Jerusalem.

11 Now the rest of the People that were left in the City, and the Fugitives that fell away to the King of Babylon, with the Remnant of the Multitude, did Nebuzaradan the Captain carry away.

12 But the Captain of the Guard left of the Poor of the Land, to be Vine-dressers, and Husbandmen.

15 And the Fire-pans, and the Bowls, and such Things as were of Gold, in Gold, and of Silver, in Silver, the Captain of the Guard took away.

16 The two Pillars, one Sea, and the Bases which Solomon had made, for the House of the LORD, the Bras of all these Vessels was without Weight.

18 And the Captain of the Guard took Seraiah the Chief Priest, and Zephaniah the second Priest, and the three Keepers of the Door.

19 And out of the City he took an Officer that was set over the Men of War, and five Men of them that were in the King's Presence, which were found in the City, and the principal Scribe of the Host, which mustered the People of the Land, and threescore Men of the People of the Land that were found in the City.

20 And Nebuzaradan Captain of the Guard took these, and brought them to the King of Babylon, to Riblah.

21 And the King of Babylon smote them, and slew them at Riblah in the Land of Hamath. So Judah was carried away out of their Land.

22 And as for the People that remained in the Land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar had left, over them he made Gedaliah Ruler.

23 And when all the Captains of the Armies, they and their Men, heard that the King of Babylon had made Gedaliah Governour, there came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael, and Johanan and Seraiah and Jaazaniah, they, and their Men.

24 And Gedaliah sware to them, and to their Men, and said

said unto them, Fear not to be the Servants of the Chaldees; dwell in the Land, and serve the King of Babylon, and it shall be well with you.

25 But it came to pass in the seventh Month, that Ishmael, of the Seed-royal, came, and ten Men with him, and smote Gedaliah, that he died, and the Jews and the Chaldees that were with him at Mizpah.

26 And all the People, and the Captains of the Armies arose, and came to Egypt: for they were afraid of the Chaldees.

27 And it came to pass in the seven and twentieth Year of the Captivity of Jehoiachin King of Judah, in the twelfth Month, on the seven and twentieth Day of the Month, that Evil-merodach King of Babylon, in the Year that he began to reign, did lift up the Head of Jehoiachin King of Judah out of Prison.

28 And he spake kindly to him, and set his Throne above the throne of the Kings that were with him in Babylon,

29 And changed his Prison-garments: and he did eat Bread continually before him all the Days of his Life.

30 And his Allowance was a continual Allowance given him of the King, a daily Rate for every Day, all the Days of his Life.



It is conceived it may not be improper to add the following Chapters out of the Book of *Jeremiah*, which contains several Circumstances relating to the Captivity, that are not found either in the Books of *Kings* or *Chronicles*.

JER. XXXVII.

Jer. 1 **Z**edekiah reigned instead of Coniah the Son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadrezzar made King in the Land of Judah.

2 But neither HE, nor his SERVANTS, nor the PEOPLE of the Land, did HEARKEN unto the WORDS of the LORD, which he spake by the Prophet Jeremiah.

3 And Zedekiah sent Jehucal and Zephaniah the Priest to the Prophet Jeremiah, saying, Pray now unto the LORD our God for us,

4 Now

4 Now Jeremiah came in and went out among the People : for they had not put him into Prison.

5 Then Pharaoh's Army was come forth out of Egypt, and when the Chaldeans that besieged Jerusalem heard Tidings of them, they departed from Jerusalem.

6 Then came the WORD of the LORD unto the Prophet Jeremiah, saying,

7 Thus saith the LORD, the GOD of Israel, Thus shall ye say to the King of Judah, that sent you unto me to enquire of me, Behold, Pharaoh's Army which is come forth to help you, shall return to Egypt into their own Land.

8 And the Chaldeans shall come again, and fight against this City, and take it, and burn it with Fire.

9 Thus saith the LORD, Deceive not yourselves, saying, The Chaldeans shall surely depart : for they shall not depart.

10 For though ye had smitten the whole Army of the Chaldeans that fight against you, and there remained but WOUNDED MEN among them, yet should they rise up every Man in his Tent, and burn this City with Fire.

11 And it came to pass that when the Army of the Chaldeans was broken up from Jerusalem for fear of Pharaoh's Army,

12 Then Jeremiah went forth out of Jerusalem to go into the Land of Benjamin.

13 And when he was in the Gate of Benjamin, a Captain of the Ward was there, and he took Jeremiah, saying, Thou fallest away to the Chaldeans.

14 Then said Jeremiah, It is false, I fall not away to the Chaldeans : but he hearkned not to him : so Irijah took Jeremiah and brought him to the Princes.

15 Wherefore the Princes were wroth with Jeremiah, and smote him, and put him in Prison.

16 When Jeremiah was entred into the Dungeon, and into the Cabins, and Jeremiah had remained there many Days.

17 Then Zedekiah sent, and took him out ; and the King asked him secretly in his House, and said, Is there any WORD from the LORD ? and Jeremiah said, There is : for, said he, thou shalt be delivered into the Hand of the King of Babylon.

18 Moreover, Jeremiah said unto King Zedekiah, What have I offended against thee, or against thy Servants, or against this People, that ye have put me in Prison ?

19 Where

19 Where are now your Prophets which prophesied unto you, saying, The King of Babylon shall not come against you, nor against this Land?

20 Therefore hear now, I pray thee, O my Lord the King, let my Supplication, I pray thee, be accepted before thee; that thou cause me not to return to the House of Jonathan the Scribe, lest I die there.

21 Then Zedekiah the King commanded that they should commit Jeremiah into the Court of the Prison, and that they should give him daily a Piece of Bread out of the Baker's Street, until all the Bread in the City were spent; Thus Jeremiah remained in the Court of the Prison.

CHAP. XXXVIII.

1 Jeremiah is put into the Dungeon : 7 Ebed-melech getteth him some Enlargements : 14 His Counsel to the King.

Ver. 1 **T**HEN Shephatiah, and Gedaliah, and Suca, and Pashur, heard the Words that Jeremiah had spoken unto all the People, saying,

2 Thus saith the LORD, He that remaineth in this City shall die by the Sword, by the Famine, and by the Pestilence : but he that goeth forth to the Chaldeans shall live ; for he shall have his Life for a Prey, and shall live.

3 Thus saith the LORD, This City shall surely be given into the Hand of the King of Babylon's Army, which shall take it.

4 Therefore the Princes said unto the King, We beseech thee, let this Man be put to Death : for thus he weakeneth the Hands of the Men of War that remain in this City, and the Hands of all the People, in speaking such Words unto them : for this Man seeketh not the Welfare of this People, but the Hurt.

5 Then Zedekiah said, Behold, he is in your Hand : for the King is not he that can do any thing against you.

6 Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the Dungeon of Malchiah : and they let down Jeremiah with Cords. and in the Dungeon there was no Water, but MIRE : so Jeremiah sunk in the Mire.

7 Now when Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, one of the Eunuchs which was in the King's House, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the Dungeon,

8 Ebed-melech went forth out of the King's House, and spake to the King, saying,

9 My

9 My LORD the King, these Men have done Evil in all that they have done to Jeremiah the Prophet, whom they have cast into the Dungeon, and he is like to die for Hunger in the Place where he is, for there is no more Bread in the City.

10 Then the King commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, take from hence thirty Men with thee, and take up Jeremiah the Prophet out of the Dungeon before he die.

11 So Ebed-melech took the Men with him, and took old cast Clouts, and old rotten Rags, and let them down by Cords into the Dungeon to Jeremiah.

12 And Ebed-melech said unto Jeremiah, put now these old cast Clouts, and rotten Rags under thine Arm-holes, under the Cords, and Jeremiah did so.

13 So they drew up Jeremiah with Cords, and took him up out of the Dungeon, and Jeremiah remained in the Court of the Prison.

14 Then Zedekiah sent, and took Jeremiah to him, and the King said unto Jeremiah, I will ask thee a Thing: hide nothing from me.

15 Then Jeremiah said unto Zedekiah, If I declare it unto thee, wilt thou not surely put me to Death? and if I give thee Counsell, wilt thou not hearken to me.

16 So Zedekiah the King sware secretly unto Jeremiah, as the LORD liveth that made us this Soul, I will not put thee to Death, neither will I give thee into the Hand of these Men that seek thy Life.

17 Then said Jeremiah unto Zedekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the GOD of Hosts, the GOD of Israel, If thou wilt assuredly go forth unto the King of Babylon's Princes, then thy Soul shall live, and this City shall not be burnt with Fire, and thou shalt live, and thine House.

18 But if thou wilt not go forth to the King of Babylon's Princes, then shall this City be given into the Hand of the Chaldeans, and they shall burn it with Fire, and thou shalt not escape out of their Hand.

19 And Zedekiah the King said unto Jeremiah, I am afraid of the Jews that are fallen to the Chaldeans, lest they deliver me into their Hand, and they mock me.

20 But Jeremiah said, They shall not deliver thee; O-BEY, I beseech thee, the Voice of the LORD which I speak

G g g g

unto

unto thee: so it shall be well unto thee, and thy Soul shall live.

21 But if thou refuse to go forth, this is the Word that the LORD hath shewed me.

22 And behold, all the Women that are left in the King of Judah's House, shall be brought forth to the King of Babylon's Princes, and those Women shall say, Thy Friends have set thee on, and have prevailed against thee: thy Feet are sunk in the Mire, and they are turned away back.

23 So they shall bring out all thy Wives and thy Children to the Chaldeans, and thou shalt not escape out of their Hand, but shall be taken by the Hand of the King of Babylon: and thou shalt cause this City to be burnt.

24 Then said Zedekiah unto Jeremiah, Let no Man know of these Words, and thou shalt not die.

25 But if the Princes hear that I have talked with thee, and they come unto thee, and say unto thee, Declare unto us now what thou hast said unto the King; hide it not from us, and we will not put thee to Death; also what the King said unto thee.

26 Then thou shalt say unto them, I presented my Supplication before the King, that he would not cause me to return to Jonathan's House, to die there.

27 Then came all the Princes unto Jeremiah, and asked him, and he told them according to these Words, that the King had commanded: so they left off speaking with him: for the Matter was not perceived.

28 So Jeremiah abode in the Court of the Prison, until the Day that Jerusalem was taken, and he was there when Jerusalem was taken.

C H A P. XXXIX.

Ver. 1 **I**N the ninth Year of Zedekiah, in the tenth Month, came Nebuchadrezzar, and all his Army against Jerusalem, and they besieged it.

2 And in the eleventh Year of Zedekiah, in the fourth Month, the ninth Day of the Month, the City was broken up.

3 And all the Princes of the King of Babylon came in, and sat in the middle Gate.

4 And it came to pass, that when Zedekiah saw them, and

and all the Men of War, then they fled, and went forth out of the City by Night, by the Way of the King's Garden, by the Way of the Plain.

5 But the Chaldeans Army pursued after them, and overtook Zedekiah in the Plains of Jericho; and when they had taken him, they brought him up to Nebuchadnezzar to Riblah.

6 Then the King of Babylon slew the Sons of Zedekiah, in Riblah before his Eyes: also the King of Babylon slew all the Nobles of Judah.

7 Moreover, he put out Zedekiah's Eyes, and bound him with Chains to carry him to Babylon.

8 And the Chaldeans burnt the Houses of the People, and brake down the Walls of Jerusalem.

9 Then Nebuzaradan the Captain of the Guard carried away Captive into Babylon the Remnant of the People.

10 But Nebuzaradan left of the Poor of the People, and gave them Vineyards and Fields.

11 Now Nebuchadnezzar gave Charge concerning Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan, saying,

12 Take him, and look well to him, and do him no Harm, but do unto him even as he shall say unto thee.

13 So Nebuzaradan sent all the King of Babylon's Princes.

14 And they took Jeremiah out of the Prison, and committed him unto Gedaliah, that he should carry him Home: so he dwelt among the People.

15 Now the Word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, while he was shut up in Prison, saying,

16 Go and speak to Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, Thus saith the LORD of Hosts, the GOD of Israel, Behold, I will bring my Words upon this City for Evil, and not for Good, and they shall be accomplish'd in that Day before thee.

17 But I will deliver thee in that Day, saith the LORD, and thou shalt not be given into the Hand of the Men of which thou art afraid.

18 For I will surely deliver thee, and thou shalt not fall by the Sword, but thy Life shall be for a Prey unto thee, because thou hast put thy TRUST in me, saith the LORD.

C H A P. XL.

*1 Jeremiah being set free by Nebuzaradan, goeth to Gedaliah.
7 The dispersed Jews repair unto him. 13 Ishmael's Conspira-
racy.*

Ver. 1 **T**HE Word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, after that Nebuzaradan had let him go from Ramath, when he had taken him being bound in Chains among all which were carried away Captive into Babylon.

2 And the Captain of the Guard took Jeremiah, and said unto him, The LORD thy God hath pronounced this Evil upon this Place.

3 Now the LORD hath brought it, and done according as he hath said: because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed his Voice, therefore this Thing is come upon you.

4 And now, behold, I loose thee this Day from the Chains which were upon thine Hand: If it seem good unto thee to come with me to Babylon, come, and I will look well unto thee: but if it seem ill unto thee to come with me into Babylon, forbear: behold all the Land is before thee? whither it seemeth good and convenient for thee to go, thither go.

5 Now while he was not yet gone back, he said, Go back also to Gedaliah, whom the King of Babylon hath made Governour over the Cities of Judah, and dwell with him among the People: or go wheresoever it seemeth convenient unto thee to go. So the Captain of the Guard gave him Victuals and a Reward, and let him go.

6 Then went Jeremiah unto Gedaliah to Mizpah, and dwelt with him among the People, that were left in the Land.

7 Now when all the Captains of the Forces which were in the Fields, even they and their Men heard that the King of Babylon had made Gedaliah Governour in the Land, and had committed unto him Men and Women, and Children, and of the Poor of the Land of them that were not carried away Captive to Babylon:

8 Then they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael,
and

and Johanan, and Jonathan, and Seraiah, and the Sons of Ephai and Jezaniah, they and their Men.

9 And Gedaliah sware unto them, and their Men, saying, Fear not to serve the Chaldeans: dwell in the Land, and serve the King of Babylon, and it shall be well with you.

10 As for me, behold, I will dwell at Mizpah to serve the Chaldeans: which will come unto us, but ye, gather ye Wine, and Summer Fruits, and Oyl, and put them in your Vessels, and dwell in your Cities that ye have taken.

11 Likewise when all the Jews that were in Moab, and among the Ammonites, and in Edom, and that were in all the Countries, heard that the King of Babylon had left a Remnant of Judah, and that he had set over them Gedaliah.

12 Even all the Jews returned out of all Places, whither they were driven, and came to the Land of Judah, to Gedaliah unto Mizpah, and gathered Wine and Summer Fruits very much.

13 Moreover, Johanan and all the Captains of the Forces that were in the Fields, came to Gedaliah.

14 And said unto him, Dost thou certainly know, that Baalis the King of the Ammonites hath sent Ishmael to slay thee; But Gedaliah believed them not.

15 Then Johanan spake to Gedaliah secretly, saying, Let me go I pray thee, and I will slay Ishmael, and no Man shall know it. Wherefore should he slay thee, that all the Jews which are gathered unto thee, should be scattered, and the Remnant of Judah perish?

16 But Gedaliah said unto Johanan, Thou shalt not do this Thing, for thou speakest falsely of Ishmael.

C H A P. XLI.

1 *Ishmael treacherously killeth Gedaliah and others.* 11 *Johanan recovereth the Captives, and mindeth to flee into Egypt.*

Ver. 1. **N**OW it came to pass in the seventh Month, that Ishmael, and the Princes of the King, even ten Men with him, came unto Gedaliah, and there they did eat Bread together in Mizpah.

2 Then arose Ishmael, and the ten Men that were with him, and smote Gedaliah with the Sword, and slew him
whom

whom the King of Babylon had made Governour over the Land.

3 Ishmael also slew all the Jews that were with him, and the Chaldeans that were found there, and the Men of War.

4 And it came to pass the second Day, after he had slain Gedaliah, and no Man knew it.

5 That there came from Shechem, Shiloh, and Samaria, fourscore Men having their Beards shaven, and their Cloaths Rent, and having cut themselves, with Offerings and Incense in their Hand, to bring them to the House of the Lord.

6 And Ishmael went forth to meet them, weeping all along as he went: and it came to pass as he met them, he said unto them, Come to Gedaliah.

7 And it was so when they came into the midst of the City, that Ishmael slew them, and cast them into the midst of the Pit.

8 But ten Men were found among them, that said unto Ishmael, Slay us not: for we have Treasures in the Field: so he slew them not.

9 Now the Pit wherein Ishmael had cast all the dead Bodies of the Men (whom he had slain) was it, which Aia had made for Fear of Baasha King of Israel; and Ishmael filled it with them that were slain.

10 Then Ishmael carried away Captive all the Residue of the People, that were in Mizpah, even the King's Daughters, and all the People that remain'd in Mizpah, whom Nebuzaradan had committed to Gedaliah, and Ishmael carried them away Captive, and departed to go over to the Ammonites.

11 But when Johanan, and all the Captains of the Forces that were with him, heard of all the Evil that Ishmael had done.

12 Then they took all the Men, and went to fight with Ishmael, and found him by the great Waters that are in Gibeon.

13 Now it came to pass, that when all the People that were with Ishmael saw Johanan, and all that were with him, then they were glad.

14 So all the People that Ishmael had carried away Captive from Mizpah, cast about, and returned, and went unto Johanan.

15 But

15 But Ishmael escaped with eight Men, and went to the Ammonites.

16 Then took Johanan, and all the Captains of the Forces that were with him, all the Remnant of the People whom he had recovered from Ishmael, even mighty Men of War, and the Women, and the Children, and the Eunuchs whom he had brought again from Gibeon.

17 And they departed, and dwelt in the Habitation of Chimham, which is by Bethlehem, to go to enter into Egypt,

18 Because of the Chaldeans: for they were afraid of them, because Ishmael had slain Gedaliah, whom the King of Babylon made Governour in the Land.

C H A P. XLII.

1 Johanan desireth Jeremiah to enquire of God, promising Obedience. 7 Jeremiah's Answer 19. Their Hypocrisy reproved.

Ver. 1 **T**HEN all the Captains of the Forces, and Johanan, and Jezaniah, and all the People came near.

2 And said unto Jeremiah the Prophet, Let, we beseech thee, our Supplication be accepted before thee, and **PRAY** for us unto the **LORD** thy **GOD**, even for all this Remnant.

3 That the **LORD** thy **GOD** may shew us the Way wherein we may walk, and the Thing that we may do.

4 Then Jeremiah said unto them, I have heard you: behold I will pray unto the **LORD** your **GOD**, according to your Words, and it shall come to pass, that whatsoever Thing the **LORD** shall answer you, I will declare it unto you: I will keep nothing back from you.

5 Then they said to Jeremiah, the **LORD** be a true and faithful Witness between us, if we do not even according to all Things for the which the **LORD** thy **GOD** shall send thee to us.

6 Whether it be good, or whether it be evil, we will obey the Voice of the **LORD** our **GOD**, to whom we send thee, that it may be well with us, when we obey the Voice of the **LORD** our **GOD**.

7 And it came to pass after ten Days, that the Word of the **LORD** came unto Jeremiah.

8 Then

8 Then called he Johanan, and all the Captains of the Forces which were with him, and all the People.

9 And said unto them, Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, unto whom ye sent me to present your Supplication before him.

10 If ye still abide in this Land, then will I build you, and not pull you down, and I will plant you, and not pluck you up: for I repent me of the Evil that I have done unto you.

11 Be not afraid of the King of Babylon, of whom ye are afraid: be not afraid of him, saith the LORD, for I am with you to save you, and to deliver you from his Hand.

12 And I will shew Mercies unto you, that he may have Mercy upon you, and cause you to return to your own Land.

13 But if ye say, We will not dwell in this Land, neither obey the VOICE of the LORD your GOD.

14 Saying, No, but we will go into the Land of Egypt, where we shall see no War, nor hear the Sound of the Trumpet, nor have Hunger of Bread, and there will we dwell.

15 (And now therefore hear the Word of the LORD, ye Remnant of Judah, Thus saith the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, If ye wholly set your selves to enter into Egypt, and go to sojourn there:)

16 Then it shall come to pass, that the Sword which ye feared, shall overtake you in the Land of Egypt, and the Famine whereof ye were afraid, shall follow close after you there in Egypt, and there ye shall die.

17 So it shall be with all the Men that set their Faces to go into Egypt to sojourn there, they shall die by the Sword, by the Famine, and by the Pestilence: and none of them shall remain, or escape from the Evil that I will bring upon them.

18 For thus saith the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, As mine Anger and my Fury hath been poured forth upon the Inhabitants of Jerusalem: so shall my Fury be poured forth upon you, when ye shall enter into Egypt: and ye shall be an Execration and Astonishment, and a Curse, and a Reproach, and ye shall see this Place no more.

19 The LORD hath said concerning you, O ye Remnant of Judah, Go ye not into Egypt: know certainly that I have admonished you this Day.

20 For ye dissembled in your Hearts when ye sent me unto the LORD your God, saying, Pray for us unto the LORD our God, and according to all that the LORD our God shall say, so declare unto us, and we will do it.

21 And now I have this Day declared it to you, but ye have not obeyed the Voice of the LORD your God, nor any thing for the which he hath sent me unto you.

22 Now therefore know certainly, that ye shall die by the Sword, by the Famine, and by the Pestilence, in the Place whither ye desire to go, and to sojourn.

C H A P. XLIII.

1 Johanan carrieth Jeremiah into Egypt. 8 Jeremiah prophesieth the Conquest of Egypt by the Babylonians.

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass, that when Jeremiah had made an End of speaking unto all the People, all the Words of the LORD their God, for which the LORD their God had sent him to them, even all these Words.

2 Then spake Azariah, and Johanan, and all the **PROUD** Men, saying unto Jeremiah, Thou speakest falsely: The LORD our God hath not sent thee to say, Go not into Egypt to sojourn there.

3 But Baruch setteth thee on against us, for to deliver us into the Hand of the Chaldeans, that they might put us to Death, and carry us away Captives into Babylon.

4 So Johanan, and all the People obeyed not the Voice of the LORD, to dwell in the Land of Judah.

5 But Johanan, and all the Captains of the Forces, took all the Remnant of Judah, that were returned from all Nations whither they had been driven, to dwell in the Land of Judah;

6 Even Men, and Women, and Children, and the King's Daughters, and every Person that Nebuzar-adan had left with Gedaliah, and Jeremiah, and Baruch.

7 So they came into the Land of Egypt, for they obeyed not the Voice of the LORD; thus came they to Tahpanhes.

8 Then came the Word of the LORD to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying,

9 Take great Stones in thine Hand, and hide them in the Clay in the Brick-kiln, which is at the Entry of Pharaoh's

H h h h

House

House in Tahpanhes, in the Sight of the Men of Judah :

10 And say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadnezzar the King of Babylon my Servant, and will set his Throne upon these Stones that I have hid, and he shall spread his Royal Pavilion over them.

11 And when he cometh, he shall smite the Land of Egypt, and deliver such as are for Death, to Death; and such as are for Captivity, to Captivity; and such as are for the Sword, to the Sword.

12 And I will kindle a Fire in the Houses of the Gods of Egypt, and he shall burn them, and carry them away Captives, and he shall aray himself with the Land of Egypt, as a Shepherd putteth on his Garment, and he shall go forth from thence in Peace.

13 He shall break also the Images of Beth-shemech, that is in the Land of Egypt; and the Houses of the Gods of the Egyptians shall he burn with Fire.

C H A P. XLIV.

1 *The Desolation of Judah for Idolatry.* 15 *The Jews Obstinate,* 20 *Is threatened.* 29 *The Destruction of Egypt prophesied.*

Ver. 1 **T**HE Word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews which dwelt in the Land of Egypt, which dwelt at Migdol, and at Tahpanhes, and at Noph, and in the Country of Pathros, saying,

2 Thus saith the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, Ye have seen all the Evil that I have brought upon all the Cities of Judah; and behold, this Day they are a DESOLATION, no Man dwelleth therein.

3 Because of their WICKEDNESS which they have committed, to provoke me to Anger, in that they went to burn Incense, and to serve other Gods whom they knew not, neither they, you, nor your Fathers.

4 Howbeit, I sent you all my Servants the Prophets, rising early and sending them, saying, Oh do not this abominable Thing that I hate.

5 But they HEARKNED not, nor inclined their Ear to turn from their WICKEDNESS, to burn no Incense unto other Gods.

6 Wherefore

6 Wherefore my Fury and mine Anger was poured forth, and was kindled in the Cities of Judah, and in the Streets of Jerusalem, and they are wasted and desolate, as at this Day.

7 Therefore now, thus saith the LORD, the GOD of Hosts, the God of Israel, Wherefore commit ye this great Evil against your Souls, to cut off from you Man and Woman, Child and Suckling out of Judah, to leave you none to remain;

8 In that ye provoke me unto Wrath with the WORKS of your HANDS, burning Incense unto other Gods in the Land of Egypt, whither ye be gone to dwell, that ye might cut your selves off, and that ye might be a Curse, and a REPROACH among all the NATIONS of the Earth?

9 Have ye forgotten the WICKEDNESS of your Fathers, and the Wickedness of the KINGS of Judah, and the Wickedness of their Wives, and your own Wickedness, and the Wickedness of your Wives which they have committed in the Land of Judah, and in the Streets of Jerusalem?

10 They are not humbled even unto this Day, neither have they feared nor walked in my Law, nor in my Statutes that I set before you, and before your Fathers.

11 Therefore thus saith the LORD of Hosts, the GOD of Israel, Behold, I will set my Face against you for Evil, and to cut off all Judah.

12 And I will take the Remnant of Judah that have set their Faces to go into the Land of Egypt to sojourn there, and they shall be consumed, and fall in the Land of Egypt: they shall even be consumed by the Sword, and by the Famine: they shall die, from the least even unto the greatest, by the Sword, and by the Famine: and they shall be an Execution, and an Astonishment, and a Curse, and a Reproach.

13 For I will punish them that dwell in the Land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, by the Sword, by the Famine, and by the Pestilence.

14 So that none of the Remnant of Judah, which are gone into the Land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall escape or remain, that they should return into the Land of Judah, to the which they have a Desire to return to dwell there, for none shall return but such as shall escape.

15 Then all the Men which knew that their Wives had burnt Incense unto other Gods, and all the Women that stood by, a great Multitude, even all the People that dwelt

in the Land of Egypt in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying,

16 As for the Word that thou hast spoken to us in the Name of the LORD, we will not hearken unto thee.

17 But we will certainly do whatsoever Thing goeth forth out of our own Mouth, to burn Incense unto the Queen of Heaven, and to pour out drink Offerings unto her, as we have done, we and our Fathers, our Kings and our Princes, in the Cities of Judah, and in the Streets of Jerusalem: for then had we plenty of Victuals, and were well, and saw no Evil.

18 But since we have left off to burn Incense to the Queen of Heaven, and to pour out drink Offerings unto her, we have wanted all Things, and have been consumed by the Sword, and by the Famine.

19 And when we burnt Incense to the Queen of Heaven, and poured out drink Offerings unto her, did we make her Cakes to worship her, and pour out drink Offerings unto her without our Men?

20 Then Jeremiah said unto all the People, to the Men, and to the Women, and to all the People which had given him that Answer, saying,

21 The Incense that ye burnt in the Cities of Judah, and in the Streets of Jerusalem, ye, and your Fathers, your Kings, and your Princes, and the People of the Land, did not the LORD remember them, and came it not into his Mind?

22 So that the LORD could no longer bear, because of the Evil of your Doings, and because of the Abominations which ye have committed: therefore is your Land a Desolation, and an Astonishment, and a Curse without an Inhabitant, as at this Day.

23 Because ye have burnt Incense, and because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the Voice of the LORD, nor walked in his Law, nor in his Statutes, nor in his Testimonies: therefore this Evil is happened unto you, as at this Day.

24 Moreover, Jeremiah said unto all the People, and to all the Women, Hear the Word of the LORD, all Judah that are in the Land of Egypt.

25 Thus saith the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel, saying, Ye and your Wives have both spoken with your Mouths, and fulfilled with your Hand, saying, We will surely perform our Vows that we have vowed, to burn Incense

cense

cense to the Queen of Heaven, and to pour out drink Offerings unto her: ye will surely accomplish your Vows, and surely perform your Vows.

26 Therefore hear ye the Word of the LORD, all Judah that dwell in the Land of Egypt, Behold, I have sworn by my GREAT NAME, saith the LORD, that my Name shall no more be named in the Mouth of any Man of Judah, in all the Land of Egypt, saying, The LORD GOD liveth.

27 Behold, I will watch over them for Evil, and not for Good, and all the Men of Judah, that are in the Land of Egypt shall be consumed by the Sword, and by the Famine, until there be an End of them.

28 Yet a small Number that escape the Sword, shall return out of the Land of Egypt into the Land of Judah; and all the Remnant of Judah that are gone into the Land of Egypt to sojourn there, shall know whose Words shall stand, mine or theirs.

29 And this shall be a Sign unto you, saith the LORD, that I will punish you in this Place, that ye may know that my Words shall surely stand against you for Evil.

30 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will give Pharaoh-hophra King of Egypt into the Hand of his Enemies, and into the Hand of them that seek his Life, as I gave Zedekiah, King of Judah, into the Hand of Nebuchadrezzar the King of Babylon his Enemy, and that fought his Life.

C H A P. XLV.

1 *Baruch being dismayed, 4 Jeremiah instructeth and comforteth him.*

Ver. 1 **T**HE Word that Jeremiah the Prophet spake unto Baruch the Son of Neriah, when he had written these Words in a Book at the Mouth of Jeremiah, in the fourth Year of Jehoiakim the Son of Josiah King of Judah, saying,

2 Thus saith the LORD, the GOD of Israel unto thee, O Baruch,

3 Thou didst say, Wo is me now, for the LORD hath added Grief to my Sorrow, I fainted in my Sighing, and I find no Rest.

4 Thus shalt thou say unto him, The LORD saith thus, Behold, that which I have built will I break down, and that which

which I have planted, I will pluck up, even this whole Land.

5 And seekest thou GREAT THINGS FOR thy self? SEEK them NOT. For behold, I will bring Evil upon all Flesh, saith the LORD: but thy LIFE will I give unto thee for a Prey in all Places whither thou goest.

C H A P. XLVI.

1 *Jeremiab prophesieth the Overtbrow of Pharaoh's Army.* 13 *The Conquest of Egypt by Nebuchadnezzar.* 27 *Jacob comforted in their Chastisement.*

Ver. 28 **F**EAR thou not, O Jacob my Servant, saith the LORD, for I am with thee, for I will make a FULL END of all the Nations whither I have driven thee, but I will not make a FULL END of thee, but CORRECT thee in Measure, yet will I not leave thee wholly unpunished.

C H A P. XLVII.

1 *The Destruction of the Philistines.*

C H A P. XLVIII.

1 *The Judgment of Moab,* 7 *For their Pride.* 11 *For their Security.* 14 *For their Carnal Confidence,* 26 *And for their Contempt of God and his People.* 47 *The Restauration of Moab.*

C H A P. XLIX.

1 *The Judgment of the Ammonites.* 7 *Of Edom.* 23 *Of Damascus.* 28 *Of Kedar.* 30 *Of Hazor.* 34 *And of Elam.*



IT is conceived, it may not be improper to insert in this Place the Story of the *Jews*, during their Captivity in *Babylon*, as it is related in the Book of *Daniel*.

A B S T R A C T



ABSTRACT

Of the Book of


DANIEL,

So far as relates to what befel the Jews
after their Captivity to Babylon.

The Conquest of Babylon by the Persians, and the
Decree of Cyrus for rebuilding the Temple.

CHAP. I.

1 Jeboiakim's Captivity. *3* Ashpenaz taketh Daniel, Hana-
niab, Misbael and Azariab. *8* They refusing the King's Por-
tion, do prosper with Pulse and Water. *17* Their Exal-
tency in Wisdom.

Ver. 1  N the third Year of the Reign of Jehoia-
kim King of Judah, came Nebuchadnezzar
King of Babylon unto Jerusalem,
and besieged it.

2 And •

2 And the LORD gave Jehoiakim into his Hand, with part of the Vessels of the House of God, which he carried into the Land of Shinar to the House of his God, and he brought the Vessels into the Treasure.

3 And the King spake unto Ashpenaz the Master of his Eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the Children of Israel, and of the King's Seed, and of the Princes.

4 Children in whom was no Blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all Wisdom, and understanding Science, and whom they might teach the Learning, and the Tongue of the Chaldeans.

5 And the King appointed them a daily Provision of the King's Meat, and of the Wine which he drank.

6 Now among these were of the Children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah:

7 Unto whom the Prince of the Eunuchs gave Names: unto Daniel the Name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abed-nego.

8 But Daniel purposed in his Heart, that he would not defile himself with the King's Meat, nor Wine: therefore he requested of the Prince of the Eunuchs, that he might not defile himself.

9 Now God had brought Daniel into Favour and tender Love with the Prince of the Eunuchs.

10 And who said unto Daniel, I fear my LORD the King, who hath appointed your Meat and Drink: for why should he see your Faces, worse liking than the Children which are of your Sort? then shall ye make me endanger my Head to the King.

11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the Prince of the Eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

12 Prove thy Servants, I beseech thee, ten Days, and let them give us Pulse to eat, and Water to drink.

14 So he consented to them in this Matter, and proved them ten Days.

15 And at the End of ten Days, their Countenances appeared fairer, and fatter in Flesh, than all the Children which did eat the Portion of the King's Meat.

17 As for these four Children, God gave them Knowledge and Skill in all Learning and Wisdom: and Daniel had Understanding in all Visions and Dreams.

18 Now

18 Now at the End of the Days that the King had said he should bring them in, then the Prince of the Eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

19 And the King communed with them, and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah: therefore stood they before the King.

20 And in all Matters of Wisdom and Understanding that the King enquired of them, he found them ten Times better than all the Magicians and Astrologers that were in all his Realm.

21 And continued even unto the first Year of King Cyrus.

C H A P. II.

1 *Nebuchadnezzar forgetting his Dream, requireth it of the Chaldeans, by Promises and Threatnings.* 10 *They acknowledge their Inability, are judged to die.* 14 *Daniel obtaining some Respite, findeth the Dream.* 19 *He bleisseth God.* 24 *He saying the Decree, is brought to the King.* 31 *The Dream.* 36 *The Interpretation.* 46 *Daniel's Advancement.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND in the second Year of his Reign, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed Dreams, wherewith his SPIRIT was troubled, and his Sleep brake from him.

2 Then the King commanded to call the Magicians, Astrologers, Sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the King his Dreams:

3 And the King said unto them, I have dreamed a Dream, and my Spirit was troubled to know the Dream.

4 Then spake the Chaldeans to the King in Syriack, O King, live for ever: tell thy Servants the Dream, and we will shew the Interpretation.

5 The King answered and said to the Chaldeans, the THING is GONE from me: if ye will not make known unto me the Dream, with the Interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in Pieces, and your Houses shall be made a Dunghil.

6 But if ye shew the Dream, and the Interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me Gifts and Rewards, and great Honour:

7 They answered again and said, Let the King tell his Servants the Dream, and we will shew the Interpretation of it.

8 The King answered and said, I know of Certainty that ye would gain the Time, because ye see the Thing is GONE from ME.

9 But if ye will not make known unto me the Dream, there is but one Decree for you: for ye have prepared lying, and corrupt Words to speak before me, till the Time be changed: therefore tell me the Dream, and I shall know that ye can shew me the Interpretation thereof.

10 The Chaldeans answered before the King, and said, There is not a Man upon the Earth that can shew the King's Matter: therefore there is no King, that asked such Things at any Magician, or Astrologer, or Chaldean.

11 And it is a rare Thing that the King requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the King, except the Gods, whose Dwelling is not with Flesh.

12 For this Cause the King was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise Men of Babylon.

13 And the Decree went forth, and they sought Daniel and his Fellows to be slain.

14 Then Daniel answered with Counsel and Wisdom to Arioch Captain of the King's Guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise Men of Babylon.

15 He answered and said to Arioch, Why is the Decree so hasty from the King? then Arioch made the Thing known to Daniel.

16 Then Daniel went in, and desired of the King, that he would give him Time, and that he would shew the King the Interpretation.

17 Then Daniel went to his House, and made the Thing known to Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah his Companions.

18 That they would DESIRE MERCIES of the GOD of Heaven concerning this SECRET; that Daniel and his Fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise Men of Babylon.

19 Then was the SECRET revealed unto Daniel in a NIGHT VISION: then Daniel blessed the GOD of Heaven.

20 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the Name of GOD for ever and ever: for Wisdom and Might are his.

21 * And he changeth the TIMES and the Seasons: he REMOVETH KINGS, and SETTETH up Kings: he giveth Wisdom unto the Wise, and Knowledge to them that know Understanding.

22 He revealeth the deep and secret Things, he knoweth what is in the Darkness,

* Job xii 17 He leadeth Counsellors away spoiled, and maketh the Judges Fools.

18 He looseth the Bond of Kings, and girdeth their Loynes with a Girdle.

19 He leadeth Princes away spoiled, and overthroweth the Mighty.

21 He poureth Contempt upon Princes, and weakeneth the Strength of the Mighty.

and

and the Light dwelleth with him.

22 He discovereth deep Things out of Darknes, and bringeth out to Light the Shadow of Death.

23 I thank thee and praise thee, O thou GOD of my Fathers, who hast given me Wisdom and Might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee.

23 He encreaseth the Nations, and destroyeth them: he enlargeth the Nations, and straitneth them again.

24 Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, and said unto him, Destroy not the wise Men of Babylon: bring me in before the King, and I will shew unto the King the Interpretation.

25 Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the King in Haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a Man of the Captives of Judah, that will make known unto the King the Interpretation.

26 The King said to Daniel, Art thou able to make known unto me the Dream which I have seen, and the Interpretation thereof?

27 Daniel answered in the Prefence of the King, and said, The SECRET which the King hath demanded, cannot the wise Men, the Astrologers, the Magicians, the Soothsayers shew unto the King;

28 But there is a GOD in HEAVEN that revealeth SECRETS, and maketh known to the King Nebuchadnezzar, what shall be in the LATER DAYS. Thy Dream, and the Visions of thy Head upon thy Bed, are these;

29 As for thee, O King, thy Thoughts came into thy Mind, upon thy Bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that REVEALETH SECRETS maketh KNOWN unto thee, what shall COME TO PASS.

30 But as for me, this Secret is not revealed to me, for any Wisdom that I have more than any Living, but for their Sakes that shall make known the Interpretation to the King, and that thou mightest know the Thoughts of thy Heart.

31 Thou, O King, sawest, and behold, a great Image: this great Image whose Brightness was excellent, stood before thee, and the Form thereof was TERRIBLE.

32 This Image's HEAD was of fine GOLD, his BREAST and his Arms of SILVER, his Belly and his THIGHS of BRASS.

33 His LEGS of IRON, his FEET part of IRON and part of CLAY.

34 Thou sawest till that a STONE was cut out without Hands,

Hands, which SMOTE the IMAGE upon his FEET that were of Iron and Clay, and break them to Pieces.

35 ^b Then was the IRON, the CLAY, the BRASS, the SILVER and the GOLD broken to Pieces together, and became like the CHAFF of the Summer-threshing Floors, and the Wind carried them away, that no Place was found for them: and the STONE that smote the Image became a great Mountain, and FILLED the whole EARTH.

^b *Psal. ii. 1* Why do the Heathen rage, and the People imagine a vain Thing?

^c The Kings of the Earth set themselves, and the Rulers take Counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed.

^d Thou shalt break them with a Rod of Iron, thou shalt dash them in Pieces like a Potter's Vessel.

Psal. i. 1 The ungodly are like the Chaff which the Wind driveth away.

36 This is the Dream, and we will tell the Interpretation thereof before the King.

37 Thou, O King, art a King of Kings: for the God of HEAVEN hath given thee a Kingdom, Power, and Strength, and Glory.

38 And wheresoever the Children of Men dwell, the Beasts of the Field, and the Fowls of the Heaven hath he given into thine Hand, and hath made thee Ruler over them all, thou art this HEAD of GOLD.

39 And after thee shall arise another KINGDOM inferiour to thee, and another THIRD Kingdom of BRASS, which shall bear Rule over the Earth.

40 And the FOURTH Kingdom shall be STRONG as IRON: forasmuch as Iron breaketh in Pieces, and subdueth all Things: and as Iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in Pieces and bruise.

41 And whereas thou sawest the FEET and TOES part of Potters CLAY, and part of IRON: the Kingdom shall be divided, but there shall be in it of the STRENGTH of the IRON, forasmuch as thou sawest the IRON MIXED with miry CLAY.

42 And as the TOES of the Feet were part of IRON, and part of CLAY; so the Kingdom shall be partly STRONG, and partly BROKEN.

43 And whereas thou sawest IRON mixed with miry CLAY, they shall MINGLE themselves with the Seed of Men: but they shall not CLEAVE one to another, even as Iron is not mixed with Clay.

44 And in the Days of these Kings shall the God of Heaven

Heaven set up a KINGDOM, which shall never be DESTROYED: and the Kingdom shall not be left to other People, but it shall BREAK in PIECES, and consume all these Kingdoms, and it shall STAND for EVER.

45 * Forasmuch, as thou * See Dan. vii. Revel. xiii.

sawest that the STONE was cut out of the Mountain without HANDS, and that it brake in Pieces the IRON, the BRASS, the CLAY, the SILVER, and the GOLD; the Great GOD hath made known to the King, what shall come to PASS hereafter and the Dream is certain, and the Interpretation thereof sure.

46 Then the King Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his Face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an Oblation and sweet Odours unto him.

47 The King answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a Truth it is, that your GOD is a GOD of Gods, and a LORD of Kings, and a Revealer of Secrets, seeing thou couldst reveal this Secret.

48 Then the King made Daniel a great Man, and gave him many great Gifts, and made him Ruler over the whole Province of Babylon, and chief of the Governours over all the wise Men of Babylon.

49 Then Daniel requested of the King, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego over the Affairs of the Province of Babylon: but Daniel sate in the Gate of the King.

It is generally agreed, that the Image seen by Nebuchadnezzar in his Dream, was the Representation of the four great Monarchies; the golden Head representing the Chaldean Empire; the Breast and Arms of Silver, the Medo-perian; the Thighs of Brass, the Greek or Macedonian; the Legs of Iron, the Roman Empire.

And that the Toes of this Image, being a Mixture of Iron and Clay, is the Representation of the ten Kingdoms that arose upon the Ruins of the Roman Empire, who all subjected their Authority to the Controul of the Papal Supremacy; and that the Stone cut out of the Mountain without Hands, which smote the Image upon his Feet, is the Representation of the Messiahs Kingdom, which should break in Pieces and consume all these Kingdoms, and which should stand for ever.

The same Thing is revealed to Daniel under the Emblem of four savage Beasts. See Dan. vii. and Rev. xiii. and xvii.

C H A P. III.

1 Nebuchadnezzar dedicateth a golden Image in Dura. 8 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego are accused for not worshipping the Image. 13 They being threatned make a good Confession.

session. 19 God delivereth them out of the Furnace. 26 Nebuchadnezzar seeing the Miracle, bleisseth God.

Ver. 1 **N**EBUCHADNEZZAR the King made an Image of Gold, whose Height was threescore Cubits, and the Breadth thereof six Cubits: he set it up in the Plain of Dura, in the Province of Babylon.

2 ^c Then Nebuchadnezzar sent to gather together the Princes, and all the Rulers of the Provinces, to come to the Dedication of the IMAGE he had set up.

3 And they stood before the Image.

4 Then an Herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O People, Nations, and Languages.

5 That at what Time ye hear all kinds of Musick, ye fall down and worship the golden Image that Nebuchadnezzar the King hath set up.

6 And who so falleth not down and worshipping, shall the same Hour be cast into the midst of a burning **FIERY FURNACE.**

7 Therefore all the People, the Nations and the Languages fell down and **WORSHIPPED** the **GOLDEN IMAGE.**

8 Wherefore at that Time certain Chaldeans came near and accused the Jews, saying to the King,

12 There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the Affairs of the Province of Babylon: these Men, O King, have not regarded thee, they **SERVE** not thy Gods, nor **WORSHIP** the golden **IMAGE** which thou hast set up.

13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in his Rage and Fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego: then they brought these Men before the King.

14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, do not ye serve my Gods, nor worship the golden Image which I have set up?

15 Now if ye fall down and worship the Image which I have

^c Revel. xiii. 1 And I stood upon the Sand of the Sea, and saw a Beast rise up out of the Sea, having **SEVEN HEADS**, and **TEN HORNS**, and upon his Horns **TEN CROWNS**, and upon his Heads the Name of **BLASPHEMY.**

12 And he exerciseth all the Power of the **FIRST BEAST** before him, and causeth the Earth, and them that dwell therein to worship the **FIRST BEAST**, whose deadly Wound was healed.

14 Saying to them that dwell on the Earth, that they should make an **IMAGE** to the Beast which had the Wound by the Sword, and did live.

15 And he had Power to give Life unto the Image of the Beast, that the **IMAGE** of the Beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the **IMAGE** of the Beast, should be killed.

have made, well: but if ye **WORSHIP NOT**, ye shall be cast the same Hour into the midst of a burning fiery Furnace; and who is that **GOD**, that shall deliver you out of my Hands:

16 *They* answered and said to the King, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not **CAREFUL** to answer thee in this Matter.

17 If it be so, our **GOD** whom we **SERVE**, is **ABLE** to **DELIVER** us from the burning fiery Furnace, and he will **DELIVER** us out of thine Hand, O King.

18 But if **NOT**, be it known unto thee, O King, that we will **NOT** **SERVE** thy Gods, nor **WORSHIP** the golden **IMAGE** which thou hast set up.

19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of Fury, and the Form of his Visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abeg-nego: therefore, he spake and commanded, that they should heat the Furnace one **SEVEN TIMES** more than it was wont to be heat.

20 And he commanded the most mighty Men that were in his Army, to bind, and cast them into the burning fiery Furnace.

21 Then these Men were bound in their Coats, their Hose, and their Hats, and their other Garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery Furnace.

22 Therefore because the King's Commandment was urgent, and the Furnace exceeding hot, the Flame of the Fire **SLEW** those Men that took **THEM** up.

23 And these three Men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery Furnace.

24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the King was **ASTONIED**, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his Counsellors, Did not we cast three Men **BOUND** into the midst of the Fire? They answered and said unto the King, **True**, O King.

25 ⁴ He answered and said, **Lo, I SEE FOUR MEN** **LOOSE**, **WALKING** in the midst of the **FIRE**, and they have no **HURT**; and the **FORM** of the **FOURTH** is like the **SON OF GOD**.

26 Then Nebuchadnezzar

⁴ *Isa. xliii. 1* But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy Name, thou art mine.

² When thou passest through the Waters, I will be with thee, and through the Rivers they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the Fire, thou shalt not be

came

came near to the Mouth of the burning fiery Furnace, and spake and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, ye Servants of the most High God, come forth and come hither, Then THEY came forth of the midst of the Fire.

SERVANT; neither shall the FLAME kindle upon thee.

For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy one of Israel thy SAVIOUR.

In the miraculous Deliverance of Hebrew Captives was literally fulfilled the Prophecy in Isaiah.

27 And the Princes, and the King's Counsellors, being gathered together SAW these Men, upon whose BODIES the FIRE had no POWER, nor was an Hair of their Head singed, neither were their Coats changed, nor the SMELL of FIRE had passed on them.

28 Then Nebuchadnezzar said, Blessed be the GOD of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who hath sent his ANGEL, and DELIVERED his Servants that TRUSTED in him, and have changed the King's Word, and YIELDED their Bodies, that they might not serve nor WORSHIP any GOD, except their own GOD.

29 Therefore, I make a DECREE, That every People, Nation, and Language, which speak any thing amiss against THE GOD of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, shall be cut in Pieces, and their Houses shall be made a Dunghill, because there is no OTHER GOD that can DELIVER after this Sort.

30 Then the King promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, in the Province of Babylon.

It may be conjectured that this Haughty Prince was so illated with the Vision of his being the Head of all those great Empires that were to succeed him, that he directs an Image to be formed after the Model of what he had seen in his Dream, and commands all his Subjects to fall down and worship it.

What the Head of this golden Image attempted, was, by the succeeding Empires often practised, a glorious Army of Martyrs being sacrificed both under the Pagan and Papal Empires; who by a Divine Fortitude triumphed even in the Flames, over all the Rage of their cruel Persecutors.

C H A P. IV.

1 *Nebuchadnezzar confesseth God's Kingdom.* 4 *Makeb Relation of his Dream, which the Magicians could not interpret.* 8 *Daniel heareth the Dream.* 19 *He interprets it.* 28 *The Story of the Event.*

Ver. 1. **N**EBUCHADNEZZAR the King, unto all People, Nations, and Languages that dwell in all

all the Earth, Peace be multiplied unto you.

2 I thought it good to shew the SIGNS and WONDERS that the HIGH GOD hath wrought toward me.

3 * HOW GREAT are his Signs! and how MIGHTY are his WONDERS! his KINGDOM is an everlasting Kingdom, and his DOMINION is from Generation to Generation.

* *Psal. cxlv. 11* They shall speak of the Glory of thy Kingdom, and talk of thy Power.

12 To make known to the Sons of Men, his mighty A&S, and the glorious Majesty of his Kingdom.

13 Thy Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom, and thy Dominion endureth throughout all Generations.

4 I Nebuchadnezzar was at REST in mine House, and flourishing in my Palace.

5 I saw a Dream which made me AFRAID, and the Thoughts upon my Bed, and the Visions of my Head troubled me.

6 Therefore made I a Decree to bring in all the wise Men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the Interpretation of the Dream.

7 Then came in the Magicians, the Astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the Soothsayers: and I told the Dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the Interpretation thereof.

8 But at the last Daniel came in before me, in whom is the Spirit of the holy Gods, and before him I told the Dream, saying,

9 O Belshazzar, Master of the Magicians, because I know that the SPIRIT of the HOLY GODS is in thee, and no Secret troubleth thee, tell me the Visions of my Dream that I have seen, and the Interpretation thereof.

10 Thus were the Visions of mine Head in my Bed; I saw, and behold a Tree in the midst of the Earth, and the Height thereof was great.

11 The Tree grew, and was strong, and the Height thereof reached unto Heaven, and the Sight thereof to the End of all the Earth.

12 The Leaves thereof were fair, and the Fruit thereof much, and in it was Meat for all: the Beasts of the Field had Shadow under it, and the Fowls of the Heaven dwelt in the Boughs thereof, and all Flesh was fed of it.

13 I saw in the Visions of my Head upon my Bed, and behold a Watcher, and an holy one came down from Heaven.

14 He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the Tree, and cut off his Branches, shake off his Leaves, and scatter

K k k k

his

his Fruit; let the Beasts get away from under it, and the Fowls from his Branches.

15 Nevertheless, leave the Stump of his Roots in the Earth, even with a Band of Iron and Brass, in the tender Grass of the Field, and let it be wet with the Dew of Heaven, and let his Portion be with the Beasts in the Grass of the Earth.

16 Let his Heart be changed from Man's, and let a Beast's Heart be given unto him, and let seven Times pass over him.

17 This Matter is by the Decree of the Watchers, and the Demand by the Word of the holy ones: to the Intent that the Living may know, that the most High ruleth in the Kingdom of Men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of Men.

18 This Dream I King Nebuchadnezzar have seen: now thou, O Belteshazzar, declare the Interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise-men of my Kingdom are not able to make known unto me the Interpretation: but thou art able, for the Spirit of the holy Gods is in thee.

19 Then Daniel (whose Name was Belteshazzar) was astonished for one Hour, and his Thoughts troubled him: the King spake, and said, Belteshazzar, let not the Dream, or the Interpretation thereof trouble thee. Belteshazzar answered, and said, My Lord, the Dream be to them that hate thee, and the Interpretation thereof to thine Enemies.

20 The Tree that thou sawest, which grew and was strong, whose Height reached unto the Heaven, and the Sight thereof to all the Earth.

21 Whose Leaves were fair, and the Fruit thereof much, and in it was Meat for all; under which the Beasts of the Field dwelt, and upon whose Branches the Fowls of the Heaven had their Habitation.

22 It is thou, O King, thou art grown, and art become strong: for thy Greatness is grown and reacheth unto Heaven, and thy Dominion to the End of the Earth.

23 And whereas the King saw a Watcher, and an holy one coming down from Heaven, and saying, Hew the Tree down, and destroy it, yet leave the Stumps of the Roots thereof in the Earth, even with a Band of Iron and Brass, in the tender Grass of the Field, and let it be wet with the Dew of Heaven, and let his Portion be with the Beasts of the Field, till seven Times pass over him;

24 This

24 This is the Interpretation, O King, and this is the Decree of the most High, which is come upon my LORD the King;

25 That they shall drive thee from Men, and thy Dwelling shall be with the Beasts of the Field, and they shall make thee to eat Grasse as Oxen, and they shall wet thee with the Dew of Heaven, and seven Times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the Kingdom of Men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

26 And whereas they commanded to leave the Stump of the Tree Roots: thy Kingdom shall be sure unto thee, after that thou shalt have known that the Heavens do rule.

27 Wherefore, O King, let my Counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy Sins by Righteousness, and thine Iniquities by shewing Mercy to the Poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy Tranquillity.

28 All this came upon the King Nebuchadnezzar.

29 At the End of twelve Months, he walked in the Palace of the Kingdom of Babylon.

30 The King spake and said, is not this great Babylon that I have built for the House of the Kingdom, by the Might of my Power, and for the Honour of my Majesty?

31 While the Word was in the King's Mouth, there fell a Voice from Heaven, saying, O King Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken, The Kingdom is departed from thee.

32 And they shall drive thee from Men, and thy Dwelling shall be with the Beasts of the Field: they shall make thee to eat Grasse as Oxen, and seven Times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the Kingdom of Men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

33 The same Hour was the Thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar; and he was driven from Men, and did eat Grasse as Oxen, and his Body was wet with the Dew of Heaven, till his Hairs were grown like Eagles Feathers, and his Nails like Birds Claws.

34 And at the End of the Days, I Nebuchadnezzar lift up mine Eyes unto Heaven, and mine Understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose Dominion is an everlasting Dominion, and his Kingdom is from Generation to Generation.

35 And all the Inhabitants of the Earth are reputed as nothing, and he doeth according to his Will in the Army of
K k k k 2 Heaven,

Heaven, and among the Inhabitants of the Earth, and none can stay his Hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

36 At the same Time my Reason returned unto me, and for the Glory of my Kingdom, mine Honour and Brightness returned unto me; and my Counsellors and my Lords sought unto me; and I was established in my Kingdom, and excellent Majesty was added unto me.

37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honour the King of Heaven, all whose Works are Truth, and his Ways Judgment, and those that walk in Pride, he is able to abase.

C H A P. V.

1 *Belshazzars impious Feast.* 8 *A Hand-writing troubleth him.*
17 *Daniel reproveth him,* 25 *Interpreteth the Writing.* 30
The City is taken by the Medes and Persians, and the Empire translated to them.

Ver. 1 **BELSHAZZAR**

¹ the King made a great Feast to a thousand of his Lords, and drank Wine before the thousand.

2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the Wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver Vessels, which his Father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the Temple which was in Jerusalem, that the King and his Princes, his Wives and his Concubines might drink therein.

3 And the King and his Princes, his Wives and his Concubines drank in them.

4 And praised the Gods of Gold, and Silver, of Brass, of Iron, of Wood, and of Stone.

5 In the same HOUR came

¹ *Isai. xlii.* 1 The Burden of Babel, which Isaiah the Son of Amos did see.

6 Howl ye, for the Day of the Lord is at Hand; it shall come as a Destruction from the ALMIGHTY.

7 Therefore shall all Hands be faint, and every Man's Heart shall melt.

8 And they shall be afraid: Pangs and Sorrows shall take hold on them, they shall be in Pain as a Woman that travelleth: they shall be AMAZED one at another, their Faces shall be as Flames.

9 Behold, the Day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with Wrath and fierce Anger, to lay the Land desolate; and he shall destroy the Sinners thereof out of it.

11 And I will punish the World for their Evil, and the Wicked for their Iniquity; and I will cause the Arrogancy of the Proud to cease, and will lay low the Haughtiness of the Terrible.

17 Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, which shall not regard Silver.

19 And Babelion the Glory of

forth

forth the Fingers of a Man's Hand, and wrote over against the Candlestick upon the Plaster of the Wall of the King's Palace; and the KING SAW the Part of the HAND that WROTE.

6 Then the King's Countenance was changed, and his Thoughts troubled him, so that the JOINTS of his LOYNS were loosed, and his KNEES SMOTE one against another.

7 The King cried aloud to bring in the Astrologers: and the King spake and said to the wise Men of Babylon, Whosoever shall READ this WRITING, and shew the Interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with Scarlet, and have a Chain of Gold about his Neck, and shall be the third Ruler in the Kingdom.

8 Then came in all the King's wise Men, but they could NOT READ the WRITING, nor make known to the King the Interpretation thereof.

9 Then was King Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his COUNTENANCE was changed in him, and his LORDS were ASTONIED.

10 Now the Queen, by Reason of the Words of the King and his Lords, came into the Banquet House; and the Queen spake, and said, O King, live for ever: let not thy Thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy Countenance be changed.

11 There is a Man in thy Kingdom, in whom is the SPIRIT of the HOLY GODS, and in the Days of thy Father, LIGHT and UNDERSTANDING, and Wisdom like the Wisdom of the Gods, was found in him; whom the King Ne-

** See Jer. l. li. Chap. wherein is fully describ'd the taking of Babylon by the Medes, and its Desolation.*

Note, The above Prediction of Isaiah was more than 100 Years before the Walls and Palaces were built by Nebuchadnezzar.

The Place where this sumptuous City stood, is now without Inhabitants, being only the receptacle of wild and venomous Beasts, wherein the many Prophecies relating thereto have been accomplish'd in the most minute Circumstances.

Compare with these Prophecies the xiii. xvii. and xviii. Chapters of Revelations wherein the Mystick Babylon is describ'd, and the Rise and Fall of the Antichristian Empire.

buchadnezzar

KINGDOMS, the BEAUTY of the CHaldees Excellency, shall be as when GOD overthrew SODOM and GOMORRAH.

20 It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be DWELT in from Generation to Generation: neither shall the ARABIAN pitch Tent there, neither shall the Shepherds make their Fold there.

21 But WILD BEASTS of the Desert shall lie there, and their Houses shall be full of DOLEFUL CREATURES, and Owls shall dwell there, and SATYRS shall dance there.

22 And the wild Beasts of the Islands shall cry in their desolate Houses, and Dragons in their pleasant Palaces: and her Time is near to come, and her Days shall not be prolonged *.

buchadnezzar thy Father the King, I say thy Father, made Master of the Magicians.

12 Forasmuch as an excellent SPIRIT, and Knowledge, Interpreting of Dreams, and shewing of hard Sentences, dissolving of Doubts were found in the same DANIEL: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the Interpretation.

13 Then was Daniel brought in before the King, and the King spake, and said unto Daniel, art thou that DANIEL, which art of the Children of the Captivity of Judah?

14 I have heard of thee, that the Spirit of the Gods is in thee, and that Light, and Understanding, and excellent Wisdom is found in thee.

15 And now the wise Men have been brought in before me, that they should read this Writing, and make known unto me the Interpretation thereof: but they could not shew the Interpretation of the Thing.

16 Now if thou canst read the Writing, and make known the Interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with Scarlet, and have a Chain of Gold about thy Neck, and shalt be the third Ruler in the Kingdom.

17 Then Daniel answered before the King, Let thy Gifts be to thy self, and give thy Rewards to another, yet I will read the Writing unto the King, and make known to him the Interpretation.

18 O thou King, the most HIGH GOD gave Nebuchadnezzar thy Father a Kingdom, and Majesty, and Glory, and Honour.

19 And for the Majesty he gave him, all People, Nations, and Languages trembled, and feared before him: whom he WOULD, he SLEW, and WHOM he WOULD, he kept ALIVE, and whom he would, he SET up, and whom he would, he PUT down.

20 But when his Heart was lifted up, and his Mind hardened in Pride, he was deposed from his Kingly Throne, and they took his Glory from him.

21 And he was driven from the Sons of Men, and his HEART was made like the Beasts, and his Dwelling was with the wild Asses: they fed him with Grass like Oxen, and his Body was wet with the Dew of Heaven, till he knew that the most HIGH GOD ruled in the Kingdom of Men, and that he APPOINTETH over it whomsoever he WILL.

22 And thou his Son, O Belshazzar, hast not HUMBLD thine HEART, though thou knewest all this:

23 But

23 But hast lifted up thy self against the LORD of Heaven, and they have brought the Vessels of his House before thee, and thou and thy Lords, thy Wives and thy Concubines have drunk Wine in them, and thou hast praised the Gods of Silver and Gold, of Brass, Iron, Wood, and Stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose Hand thy BREATH is, and whose are all thy Ways, hast thou not glorified.

24 Then was the part of the Hand sent from him, and this Writing was written.

25 And this is the Writing that was written, MENE MENE, TEKEL UPHARSIN.

26 This is the Interpretation of the Thing, MENE, GOD hath numbred thy Kingdom, and hath finished it.

27 TEKEL, thou art weighed in the Balances, and art found wanting.

28 PERES, thy Kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

29 Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with Scarlet, and put a Chain of Gold about his Neck, and made a Proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third Ruler in the Kingdom.

30 In that Night was Belshazzar the King of the Chaldeans slain.

31 And Darius the Median took the Kingdom, being about threescore and two Years old.

CH A P. VI.

1 *Daniel is made chief of the Presidents. 4 They conspiring against him, obtain an idolatrous Decree. 10 Daniel accused of the Breach thereof, is cast into the Lions Den. 18 Daniel is saved: 24 His Adversaries devoured, 25 And God magnified by a Decree.*

Ver. 1 **I**T pleased Darius to set over the Kingdom an hundred and twenty Princes.

2 And over these three Presidents; of whom Daniel was FIRST, that the Princes might give Accounts unto them, and the King should have no Damage.

3 Then this Daniel was preferred above the Presidents and Princes, because an EXCELLENT SPIRIT was in him; and the King thought to set him over the whole Realm.

4 Then

4 Then the Presidents and Princes sought to find occasion against Daniel, concerning the Kingdom, but they could find none Occasion, nor Fault: forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any Error or FAULT found in him.

5 Then said these Men, We shall not find any Occasion against this Daniel, except we find against him concerning the Law of his GOD.

6 Then these Presidents and Princes assembled together to the King, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever.

7 All the Presidents of the Kingdom, the Governors and the Princes, the Counsellors and the Captains have consulted together, to stablish a Royal Statute, and to make a firm Decree, that whosoever shall ask a Petition of any GOD or Man for thirty Days, save of thee, O King, he shall be cast into the Den of Lions.

8 Now, O King, establish the Decree, and sign the Writing that it be not changed, according to the Law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

9 Wherefore King Darius signed the Writing and the Decree.

10 Now when Daniel KNEW that the Writing was signed, he went into his House, and his Windows being open in his Chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his Knees THREE TIMES a Day, and PRAYED, and gave Thanks before his GOD, as he did aforetime.

11 Then these Men assembled, and found Daniel praying, and making Supplication before his GOD.

12 Then they came near, and spoke before the King concerning the King's Decree, Hast thou not signed a Decree, that every Man that shall ask a Petition of any GOD or Man, within thirty Days, save of thee O King, shall be cast into the Den of Lions? The King answered and said, The Thing is true, according to the Law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

13 Then answered they, and said before the King, That Daniel which is of the Children of the Captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O King, nor the Decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his Petition three Times a Day.

14 Then the King, when he heard these Words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his Heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the Sun to deliver him.

15 Then

15 Then these Men assembled unto the King, and said unto the King, Know, O King, that the Law of the Medes and Persians is, that no Decree nor Statute which the King establisheth, may be changed.

16 Then the King commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the Den of Lions: now the King spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

17 And a Stone was brought, and laid upon the Mouth of the Den, and the King sealed it with his own Signet, and with the Signet of his Lords, that the Purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

18 Then the King went to his Palace, and passed the Night in Fasting: neither were Instruments of Musick brought before him, and his Sleep went from him.

19 Then the King arose very early in the Morning, and went in Haste unto the Den of Lions.

20 And when he came to the Den, he cried with a lamentable Voice unto Daniel, and the King spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, Servant of the Living God, is thy God whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the Lions?

21 Then said Daniel unto the King, O King live for ever.

22 My God hath sent his Angel, and hath shut the Lions Mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as Innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O King, have I done no Hurt.

¶ *Psal. xci. 13* Thou shalt tread upon the Lion and Adder: the young Lion and the Dragon shalt thou trample under Feet.

23 Then was the King exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the Den: so Daniel was taken up out of the Den, and no manner of HURT was found upon him, because he BELIEVED IN HIS GOD.

2 *Tim. iv. 17* Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the Preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the Mouth of the Lion.

24 And the King commanded, and they brought those Men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the Den of Lions, them, their Children, and their Wives: and the Lions had the Mastery of them, and brake all their bones in Pieces, or ever they came at the Bottom of the Den.

25 Then King Darius wrote unto all People, Nations,

and Languages that dwell in all the Earth, Peace be multiplied unto you.

26 I make a Decree that in every Dominion of my Kingdom, Men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, AND HIS KINGDOM that WHICH SHALL NOT BE DESTROYED, and his Dominion shall be even unto the End.

27 He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh Signs and Wonders in Heaven and in Earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the Power of the Lions.

28 So this Daniel prospered in the Reign of Darius, and in the Reign of Cyrus the Persian.





627

ABSTRACT

OF THE

Book of *EZRA*.

The Sixth Period:

From the rebuilding the Temple at Jerusalem, to
the Coming of JESUS CHRIST the Messiah,
containing about the Space of 588 Years.

CHAP. I.

- 2 The Proclamation of Cyrus, for the Building of the Temple.
5 The People provided for their Return. 7 Cyrus restoreth
the Vessels of the Temple to Sheshbazzar.*

Ver. 1



OW ^s in the
first Year
of CYRUS
King of
Persia (that

^s Isa. xlv. 23 That saith of Cyrus,
He is my Shepherd, and shall per-
form all my Pleasure, even saying to
Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and
to the Temple, Thy Foundation shall
be laid.

L111 2

the

the WORD of the LORD by the Mouth of JEREMIAH might be fulfilled) the LORD stirred up the SPIRIT of CYRUS King of Persia, that he made a Proclamation throughout all his Kingdom, and put it also in Writing, saying,

2 Thus saith CYRUS King of Persia, The LORD GOD

of HEAVEN hath given me all the Kingdoms of the Earth, and he hath CHARGED me to build him an House at Jerusalem.

3 Who is there among you of all his People? his GOD be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, and build the House of the LORD GOD of Israel (he is the GOD) which is in Jerusalem.

4 And whosoever remaineth in any Place, let the Men of his Place help him with Silver, and with Gold, and with Goods, and with Beasts, besides the Free-will Offering for the House of GOD.

5 Then rose up the chief of the Fathers of Judah, and Benjamin, and the Priests, and the Levites, with all them whose SPIRITS GOD had RAISED to go up, to build the House of the LORD.

6 And all they that were about them, strengthened their Hands with Vessels of Silver, with Gold, and with precious Things, besides all that was willingly offered.

7 Also CYRUS the King brought forth the VESSELS of the House of the LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had brought forth out of Jerusalem, and had put them in the House of his Gods.

8 Even those did Cyrus bring forth by the Hand of Mithreath the Treasurer, and numbered them unto SHESBAZAR the Prince of Judah.

11 All the Vessels of Gold and of Silver were five thousand and four hundred.

Isa. xlv. 13 I have raised him up in Righteousness, and I will direct all his Ways: he shall build my City, and he shall let go my Captives, not for Price nor Reward, saith the LORD of Hosts.

Jer. xxix. 10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy Years be accomplished at Babylon, I will visit you; and perform my good Word towards you, in causing you to return to this Place.

CHAP. II.

1 The Number that return of the People, 36 Of the Priests, 40 Of the Levites, 43 Of the Nethinims, 55 Of Solomon's Servants, 62 Of the Priests which could not shew their Pedigree.

grec. 64 *The whole Number of them with their Substance.*
68 *Their Oblations.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW these are the Children of the Province, that went up out of the Captivity, of those whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away unto Babylon, and came again unto Jerusalem and Judah, every one unto his City.

² Which came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispar, Bigvai, Behum, Baanah, the Number of the Men of the People of Israel.

64 The whole Congregation together was forty and two thousand, three hundred and threescore.

65 Besides their Servants, of whom there were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: and there were among them two hundred singing Men and singing Women.

68 And some of the chief of the Fathers when they came to the House of the LORD, offered freely for the House of GOD to set it up in this Place.

69 They gave after their Ability unto the Treasure of the Work.

C H A P. III.

¹ *The Altar is set up. 4 Offerings frequented. 7 Workmen prepared. The Foundation of the Temple laid in great Joy and Mourning.*

Ver. 8 **I**N the second Year of their coming unto the House of GOD at Jerusalem, in the second Month, Zerubbabel and Jeshua, appointed the Levites, from twenty Years old, to set forward the Work of the House of the LORD.

¹⁰ And when the Builders laid the Foundation of the Temple of the LORD, they set the Priests in their Apparel with Trumpeters, and the Levites the Sons of Asaph, with Cymbals to praise the LORD, after the ORDINANCE of DAVID King of Israel.

¹¹ And they sung together by COURSE, in Praising and giving Thanks unto the LORD, because he is GOOD, for his ^a MERCY endureth for
EVER towards Israel, and all the People shouted with a

^a *Psal. cxxxvi. 10 O give Thanks unto the LORD, for he is good, for his Mercy endureth for ever.*

great

great Shout, when they praised the LORD, because the Foundation of the House of the LORD was laid.

12 ¹ But many of the Priests and Levites, and chief of the Fathers, who were antient Men that had seen the first House, when the Foundation of this House was laid before their Eyes, WEPT with a loud Voice, and many shouted aloud for Joy.

13 So that the People could not discern the Noise of the Shout of Joy, from the Noise of the WEEPING of the People: for the People shouted with a loud Shout, and the Noise was heard afar off.

² The Silver is mine, and the Gold

³ The Glory of this latter House shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of Hosts: and in this Place will I give Peace, saith the Lord of Hosts.

¹ Haggai ii. 3 Who is left among you that saw this House in her first Glory? and how do ye see it now? Is it not in your Eyes in Comparison of it as nothing.

⁴ Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the Lord, and be strong, O Joshua Son of Josedech the High Priest, and be strong all ye People of the Land, saith the Lord, and work: (for I am with you, saith the Lord of Hosts.)

⁶ For thus saith the Lord of Hosts, Yet once it is a little while, and I will shake the Heavens, and the Earth, and the Sea, and the dry Land.

⁷ And I will shake all Nations and the Desire of all Nations shall come, and I will fill this House with Glory, saith the Lord of Hosts.

is mine, saith the Lord of Hosts.

C H A P. IV.

1 *The Building of the Temple hindered.* 7 *Their Letters to Artaxerxes.* 17 *His Decree.*

C H A P. V.

1 *Zerubbabel and Jeshua incited by Haggai and Zechariah, set forward the Building of the Temple.* 3 *Tatnai and Shethar-boznai could not hinder the Jews.* 6 *Their Letters to Darius against the Jews.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN ^{*} the Prophets, Haggai and Zechariah prophesied unto the Jews, in the Name of the God of Israel.

2 Then rose up Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and began the House of God, which is at Jerusalem: and with them

^{*} Hag. i. 1 In the second Year of Darius the King, in the sixth Month, came the Word of the Lord by Haggai the Prophet unto Zerubbabel the Governor of Judah, and to Jeshua the High Priest, saying,

2 Thus speaketh the Lord of Hosts, saying, This People say the Time is not come that the Lord's House should be built.

7 Thus saith the Lord of Hosts, Consider your Ways.

were

were the PROPHETS of GOD

HELPING them.

3 Go up to the Mountain, and bring Wood, and build the House; and I will take Pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.

Zechariah 1. 1 In the eighth Month, in the second Year of Darius, came the Word of the LORD unto Zechariah the Prophet, saying,

12 Then the Angel of the LORD answered and said, O Lord of Hosts, how long wilt thou not have Mercy on Jerusalem, and on the Cities of Judah, against which thou hast had Indignation these threescore and ten Years?

16 Therefore thus saith the LORD, I am returned to Jerusalem with Mercies: my House shall be built in it, saith the LORD of Hosts, and a Line shall be stretched forth upon Jerusalem.

C H A P. VI.

1 *Darius advanceth the Building.* 13 *The Temple is finished.*
16 *The Feast of the Dedication,* 19 *And of the Passover.*

Ver. 1 **T**HEN Darius the King made a Decree, and Search was made in the House of the Rolls, where the Treasurers were laid up in Babylon.

2 And there was found at Achmetha, in the Province of the Medes, a Roll, and therein was a RECORD thus written:

3 In the first Year of Cyrus, the King made a DECREE concerning the House of GOD at JERUSALEM: Let the HOUSE be builded, the Place where they offered Sacrifice, and let the Foundation thereof be strongly laid, the Height thereof threescore Cubits, and the Breadth thereof threescore Cubits.

4 With three Rows of great Stones, and a Row of new Timber: and let the Expences be given out of the King's House.

5 And also let the golden and silver Vessels of the House of GOD, which Nebuchadnezzar took forth out of the Temple which is at Jerusalem, and brought into Babylon, be restored, and brought again into the Temple which is at Jerusalem, every one to his Place, and place them in the House of GOD.

6 Now therefore Tatnai, Governor beyond the River, Shethar-boznai, and your Companions the Apharsachites, which are beyond the River, be ye far from thence.

7 Let the Work of the House of GOD alone, let the Governor of the Jews build this House of GOD in this Place.

8 Moreover, I make a DECREE, what ye shall do to the Elders

Elders of these Jews, for the building of this House of God, that of the King's Goods, even of the Tribute beyond the River, forthwith Expences be given unto these Men, that they be not hindred.

9 And that which they have need of, both young Bullocks, and Rams, and Lambs, for the Burnt offerings of the GOD of HEAVEN, Wheat, Salt, Wine, and Oyl, according to the Appointment of the Priests, which are at Jerusalem, let it be given them Day by Day without fail:

10 That they may offer Sacrifices of sweet Savours unto the GOD of Heaven, and PRAY for the LIFE of the KING, and of his Sons.

11 Also I have made a Decree, that whosoever shall alter this Word, let Timber be pulled down from his House, and being set up, let him be hanged thereon, and let his House be made a Dunghil for this.

12 And the GOD that hath caused his Name to dwell there, destroy all KINGS, and PEOPLE that shall put to their Hand, to alter and to destroy this House of GOD which is at Jerusalem: I DARIUS have made a DECREE, let it be done with Speed.

13 Then Tatnai, Shethar-boznai, and their Companions, according to that which Darius the King had sent, so they did speedily.

14 And the Elders of the Jews builded, and they prospered through the Prophefying of Haggai, and Zechariah, and they builded and finished it, according to the Commandment of the GOD of Israel, and according to the Commandment of Cyrus and Darius, and Artaxerxes King of Persia.

15 And this House was finished on the third Day of the Month Adar, which was in the sixth Year of the Reign of Darius the King.

16 And the Children of Israel, the Priests and the Levites, and the Rest of the Children of the Captivity, kept the Dedication of this House of GOD with Joy,

18 And they set the Priests in their Divisions, and the Levites in their Courses, for the Service of GOD, which is at Jerusalem; as it is written in the Book of Moses.

21 And the Children of Israel which were come again out of Captivity, and all such as had separated themselves unto them from the Filthiness of the Heathen of the Land, to seek the LORD GOD of Israel, did eat,

22 And

22 And kept the Feast of unleavened Bread seven Days with Joy: for the LORD had made them joyful: and turned the Heart of the King of Assyria unto them, to strengthen their Hands in the Work of the House of God, the God of Israel.

C H A P. VII.

1 *Ezra goeth up to Jerusalem.* 11 *The gracious Commission of Artaxerxes to him.* 27 *Ezra bleffeth God for his Favour.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW after these Things, in the Reign of Artaxerxes King of Persia, Ezra, whose Descent is reckoned from Aaron the High Priest.

2 The Son of Shallum, the Son of Zadock, the Son of Ahitub,

3 The Son of Amariah, the Son of Azariah, the Son of Meraioth,

4 The Son of Zerariah, the Son of Uzzi, the Son of Bukki,

6 This Ezra went up from Babylon, and he was a ready Scribe in the Law of Moses: and the King granted him all his Request, according to the Hand of the LORD his GOD upon him.

7 And there went up some of the Children of Israel, and of the Priests, and Levites, and Singers, and the Porters, and the Nethinims, unto Jerusalem, in the seventh Year of Artaxerxes the King.

8 And he came to Jerusalem in the fifth Month, which was in the seventh Year of the King.

9 For upon the first Day of the first Month, began he to go up from Babylon, and on the first Day of the fifth Month, came he to Jerusalem, according to the good Hand of his GOD upon him.

10 For Ezra had PREPARED his HEART to SEEK the LAW of the LORD, and to DO IT, and to TEACH in Israel Statutes and Judgments.

11 Now this is the Copy of the Letter that the King Artaxerxes gave unto Ezra.

12 Artaxerxes King of Kings, Unto Ezra the Priest, a Scribe of the Law of the GOD of HEAVEN, perfect PEACE, and at such a Time.

13 I make a DECREE, that all they of the People of Israel,

M m m m

rael, and of his Priests, and Levites in my Realm, which are minded of their own free Will to go up to Jerusalem, go with thee.

14 Forasmuch as thou art sent of the King, and of his seven Counsellors, to enquire concerning Judah and Jerusalem, according to the Law of thy God which is in thine HAND.

15 And to carry the Silver and Gold, which the King and his Counsellors have freely offered unto the GOD of Israel, whose Habitation is in Jerusalem.

16 And all the Silver and Gold that thou canst find in all the Province of Babylon, with the Free-will-offering of the People, and of the Priests, offering willingly for the House of their GOD, which is in Jerusalem.

17 That thou mayst buy speedily with this Money, Bulls, Rams, Lambs, with their Meat-offerings, and their Drink-offerings, and offer them upon the Altar of the House of your GOD which is in Jerusalem.

18 And whatsoever shall seem good to thee, and to thy Brethren, to do with the rest of the Silver and Gold, that do after the Will of your GOD.

19 The Vessels also that are given thee, for the Service of the House of thy GOD, those DELIVER thou before the GOD of Jerusalem.

20 And whatsoever more shall be needful for the House of thy GOD, which thou shalt have Occasion to bestow, bestow it out of the King's Treasure House.

21 And I, even I Artaxerxes the King, do make a DECREE to all the Treasurers which are beyond the River, That whatsoever Ezra the Priest, the Scribe of the LAW of the GOD of HEAVEN, shall require of you, it be done speedily ;

22 Unto an hundred Talents of Silver, and to an hundred Measures of Wheat, and to an hundred Baths of Wine, and to an hundred Baths of Oyl, and Salt without prescribing how much.

23 Whatsoever is COMMANDED by the GOD of HEAVEN, let it be diligently done, for the House of the GOD of HEAVEN: for why should there be WRATH against the King and his SONS ?

24 Also we certify you, that touching any of the Priests and Levites, Singers, Porters, Nethinims, or Ministers of this House of GOD, it shall not be lawful to impose Toll, Tribute, or Custom upon them.

25 And

25 And thou Ezra, after the WISDOM of thy GOD, that is in thine Hand, set Magistrates and Judges, which may judge all the People that are beyond the River, and all such as know the LAWS of thy GOD; and TEACH ye them that know them not.

26 And whosoever will not do the LAW of thy GOD, and the Law of the King, let Judgment be executed speedily upon him, whether it be unto DEATH, or to BANISHMENT, or to Confiscation of Goods, or to IMPRISONMENT.

27 BLESSED be the LORD GOD of our Fathers, which hath put such a Thing as this in the King's HEART, to beautify the House of the LORD which is in Jerusalem.

28 And hath extended Mercy unto me, before the King, and his Counsellors, and before all the Kings mighty Princes: and I was strengthened as the Hand of the LORD my GOD was upon me, and I gathered together out of Israel, chief Men to go up with me.

C H A P. VIII.

1 Ezra's Companions, who returned from Babylon. 15 He sendeth to Iddo for Ministers for the Temple. 21 He keepeth a Fast. 24 He committeth the Treasures to the Custody of the Priests. 31 From Ahava they come to Jerusalem. 33 The Treasure is weighed in the Temple. 36 The Commission is delivered.

Ver. 21 **T**HEN I Ezra proclaimed a Fast at the River Ahava, that we might AFFLICT ourselves before our GOD, to SEEK of him a right Way for us, and for our little ones, and for all Substance.

22 For as I was ashamed to require of the King a Band of Soldiers and Horsemen, to help us against the Enemy in the Way: because we had spoken unto the King, saying, The HAND of our GOD is upon all them for GOOD, that SEEK him, but his POWER and his WRATH is against all them that FORSAKE him.

23 So we fasted and BESOUGHT our GOD for this, and he was INTREATED of us.

24 Then I separated twelve of the chief of the Priests, Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and ten of their Brethren with them,

25 And weighed unto them the Silver, and the Gold,

M m m m 2 and

and the Vessels, even the Offering of the House of our God, which the King and his Counsellors, and his Lords, and all Israel there present, had offered.

28 And I said unto them, Ye are holy unto the LORD, the Vessels are holy also.

29 Watch ye, and keep them, until ye weigh them before the chief of the Priests, and the Levites, and chief of the Fathers of Israel at Jerusalem, in the Chambers of the House of the LORD.

31 Then we departed from the River Ahava, on the twelfth Day of the first Month, to go unto Jerusalem; and the Hand of our God was upon us, and he delivered us from the Hand of the Enemy, and of such as lay in Wait by the Way.

32 And we came to Jerusalem, and abode there three Days.

36 And they delivered the King's Commissions unto the King's Lieutenants, and to the Governors on this Side the River, and they furthered the People, and the House of God.

C H A P. IX.

1 *Ezra mourneth for the Affinity of the People with Strangers:*
5 *He prayeth unto God with Confession of Sins.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW when these Things were done, the Princes came to me saying, The People of Israel, and the Priests, and the Levites have not separated themselves from the People of the Lands, doing according to their ABOMINATIONS.

2 For they have taken of their Daughters for themselves, and for their Sons: so that the holy Seed have mingled themselves with the People of those Lands: yea, the Hand of the Princes and Rulers hath been chief in this Trespas.

3 And when I heard this Thing, I rent my Garment and my Mantle, and pluckt off the Hair of my Head, and of my Beard, and sat down astonied.

4 Then were assembled unto me every one that TREMBLED at the Words of the GOD of Israel, because of the Transgression of those that had been carried away, and I sat astonied until the Evening Sacrifice.

5 And at the Evening Sacrifice, I arose up from my Heaviness, and having rent my Garment and my Mantle, I fell upon

upon my KNEES, and spread out my Hands unto the LORD my GOD.

6 And said, O MY GOD, I am ASHAMED, and blush to lift up my Face to thee, my GOD: Our Iniquities are increased over our Heads, and our Trespases is grown up unto the Heavens.

7 Since the Days of our Fathers, have we been in a great Trespas unto this Day, and for our INIQUITIES have we, our Kings, and our Priests been delivered into the Hand of the Kings of the Lands, to the Sword, to Captivity, and to a Spoil, and to Confusion of Face, as it is this Day.

8 And now for a little Space GRACE hath been shewed from the LORD our GOD, to leave us a Remnant to escape, and to give us a Nail in his holy Place, that our GOD may LIGHTEN our EYES, and give us a little Reviving in our Bondage.

9 For we were Bondmen, yet our GOD hath not FORSAKEN us in our Bondage, but hath extended MERCY unto us in the Sight of the Kings of Persia, to give us a Reviving, to set up the House of our GOD, and to repair the Defolations thereof, and to give us a Wall in Judah and Jerusalem.

10 And now, O our GOD, what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken thy Commandments.

11 Which thou hast commanded by thy Servants the Prophets, saying, The Land unto which ye go to possess it, is an UNCLEAN LAND with the Filthiness of the People of the Lands, with their ABOMINATIONS, which have filled it from one End to another, with their Uncleaness.

12 Now therefore give not your Daughters unto their Sons, neither take their Daughters unto your Sons, nor seek their PEACE, or their Wealth for ever: that ye may be strong, and eat the Good of the Land, and leave it for an Inheritance to your Children for ever.

13 And after all that is come upon us for our evil Deeds, and for our great Trespas, seeing that thou our GOD hast PUNISHED us less than our Iniquities DESERVE, and hast given us such Deliverance as this.

14 Should we again break thy Commandments, and join in AFFINITY with the People of these ABOMINATIONS? wouldest thou not be angry with us, till thou hadst consumed us, so that there should be no Remnant nor escaping?

15 O LORD GOD of Israel, thou art RIGHTEOUS, for
we

we remain yet escaped, as it is this Day: behold, we are before thee in our TRESPASSES: for we cannot STAND before thee, because of this.

C H A P. X.

1 Shechaniab encourageth Ezra to reform the strange Marriage. 6 Ezra Mourning assembleth the People. 9 The People at the Exhortation of Ezra, repent and promise Amendment. 15 Their Care to perform it. 18 The Names of them which had married strange Wives.

Ver. 1 **N**OW when Ezra had prayed, and when he had CONFESSED, WEEPING and casting himself down before the House of GOD, there assembled unto him out of Israel a very great Congregation of Men, and Women, and Children: for the People wept very sore.

2 And Shechaniah one of the Sons of Elam, answered and said unto Ezra, We have trespassed against our GOD, and have taken strange Wives, of the People of the Land: yet now there is HOPE in Israel concerning this Thing.

3 Now therefore let us make a COVENANT with our GOD, to put away all the Wives, and such as are born of them, according to the Counsel of my LORD, and of those that TREMBLE at the COMMANDMENT of our GOD, and let it be done according to the LAW.

4 Arise: for this Matter belongeth unto thee; we also will be with thee: be of good Courage, and do it.

5 Then arose Ezra, and made the chief Priests, the Levites, and all Israel to swear, that they should do according to this Word: and they sware.

6 Then Ezra rose up from before the House of GOD, and went into the Chamber of Johanan the Son of Eliafhib: and when he came thither, he did eat no Bread, nor drink Water: for he MOURNED because of the TRANSGRESSION of them that had been carried away.

7 And they made Proclamation throughout Judah and Jerusalem, unto all the Children of the Captivity, that they should gather themselves together unto Jerusalem.

8 And that whosoever would not come within three Days, all his Substance should be forfeited, and himself separated from the Congregation.

9 Then all the Men of Judah and Benjamin gathered themselves

themselves together unto Jerusalem, and all the People sat in the Street of the House of GOD, TREMBLING because of this Matter. and for the GREAT RAIN.

10 And Ezra the Priest stood up, and said unto them, Ye have transgressed, and have taken strange Wives, to encrease the Trespas of Israel.

11 Now therefore make CONFESSION unto the LORD GOD of your Fathers, and DO his PLEASURE: and separate your selves from the People of the Land, and from the strange Wives.

12 Then all the Congregation answered, and said with a loud Voice, as thou hast said, so must we do.

13 But the People are many, and it is Time of much Rain, and we are not able to stand without, neither is this a Work of one Day or two: for we are many that have transgressed in this Thing.

14 Let now our Rulers of all the Congregation stand, and let all them which have taken strange Wives in our Cities, come at appointed Times, and with them the Elders of every City, and the Judges thereof, until the fierce Wrath of our GOD for this Matter, be turned from us.

15 Only Jonathan the Son of Asahel, and Jahaziah the Son of Tikvah, were employed about this Matter: and Meshullam, and Shabbethai the Levite helped them.

16 And the Children of the Captivity did so: and Ezra the Priest, with certain chief of the Fathers, and all of them by their Names, were separated, and sat down in the first Day of the tenth Month to examine the Matter.

17 And they made an End with all the Men that had taken strange Wives, by the first Day of the first Month.





A N


ABSTRACT

Of the Book of

NEHEMIAH.

CHAP. I.

1 Nehemiah understanding by Hanani, the Misery of Jerusalem mourneth, fasteth and prayeth. 5 His Prayer.

Ver. 1  HE Words of Nehemiah the Son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the Month Chisleu, in the twentieth Year, as I was in Shushan the Palace.

2 That Hanani one of my Brethren, came, he and certain Men of Judah, and I asked them concerning the Jews that had **ESCAPED**, which were left of the Captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.

3 And they said unto me, The Remnant that are left of the Captivity there in the Province, are in great Affliction and Reproach: the Wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the Gates thereof are burnt.

4 And

4 And it came to pass when I heard these Words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain Days, and FASTED, and PRAYED before the GOD of HEAVEN,

5 And said, I beseech thee, O LORD GOD of HEAVEN, the GREAT and TERRIBLE GOD, that keepeth COVENANT and MERCY for them that LOVE him and OBSERVE his COMMANDMENTS:

6 Let thine Ear now be ATTENTIVE, and thine Eyes OPEN, that thou mayest hear the PRAYER of thy Servant, which I pray before thee now, DAY and NIGHT, for the Children of Israel thy Servants, and CONFESS the SINS of the Children of Israel, which we have SINNED against thee: both I, and my Father's House have sinned.

7 We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the COMMANDMENTS, nor the Statutes, nor the Judgments which thou commandest thy Servant MOSES.

8 ^a Remember, I beseech thee, the Word that thou commandest thy Servant MOSES, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the Nations.

^a *Lev. xvi. 40.* If they shall confess their Iniquity, and the Iniquity of their Fathers, with their Trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me;

9 But if ye turn unto me, and keep my Commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the Heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the Place that I have chosen to set my Name there.

⁴¹ And that I also have walked contrary, and have brought them into the Land of their Enemies; if then their uncircumcised Hearts be humbled, and then they accept of the Punishment of their Iniquity.

⁴² Then will I remember my Covenant with Jacob, and Isaac, and also my Covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the Land.

10 Now these are thy Servants, and thy People whom thou hast REDEEMED by thy GREAT POWER, and by thy STRONG HAND.

11 O LORD, I beseech thee, let now thine Ear be ATTENTIVE to the Prayer of thy Servants, who desire to FEAR thy NAME: and prosper, I pray thee, thy Servant this Day, and GRANT him MERCY in the Sight of this Man. For I was the King's Cup-bearer.

CHAP. II.

1 Artaxerxes understanding the Cause of Nehemiah's Sadness, sendeth him with Letters and Commission to Jerusalem. 9

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Nehemiah

*Nehemiah to the Grief of the Enemies cometh to Jerusalem.
 12 He vieweth secretly the Ruins of the Walls. 17 He
 inciteth the Jews to build in Despite of the Enemies.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND it came to pass in the Month Nisan, in the twentieth Year of Artaxerxes the King, that Wine was before him: and I took up the Wine, and gave it unto the King: now I had not been before Time **SAD** in his Presence.

2 Wherefore the King said unto me, Why is thy Countenance **SAD**, seeing thou art not sick? this is nothing else but Sorrow of Heart. Then I was very sore afraid,

3 And said unto the King, Let the King live for ever: why should not my Countenance be sad, when the City, the Place of my Fathers Sepulchres, lieth waste, and the Gates thereof are consumed with Fire?

4 Then the King said unto me, For what dost thou make Request? So I **PRAYED** to the **GOD** of **HEAVEN**.

And I said unto the King, If it please the King, and if thy Servant have found Favour in thy Sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah unto the City of my Fathers Sepulchres, that I may build it.

6 And the King said unto me, (the Queen also sitting by him) For how long shall thy Journey be? and when wilt thou return? So it pleased the King to send me, and I set him a Time.

7 Moreover, I said unto the King, If it please the King, let Letters be given me to the Governors beyond the River, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah;

8 And a Letter unto Asaph the Keeper of the King's Forest, that he may give me Timber to make Beams for the Gates of the Palace which appertained to the House, and for the Wall of the City, and for the House that I shall enter into: and the King granted me, according to the good **Will** of my **GOD** upon me.

9 Then I came to the Governors beyond the River, and gave them the King's Letters. (Now the King had sent Captains of the Army, and Horsemen with me.)

10 When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the Servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a Man to seek the **WELFARE** of the Children of Israel.

11 So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three Days.

17 Then

17 Then said I, Ye see the Distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lieth waste, and the Gates thereof are burnt with Fire: come let us build up the Wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a Reproach.

18 Then I told them of the Hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the King's Words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their Hands for this good Work.

19 But when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian heard it, they laughed us to Scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this Thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the King.

20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The GOD OF HEAVEN he will prosper us; therefore we his Servants will arise and build: but you have no Portion, nor Right, nor Memorial in Jerusalem.

CHAP. III.

The Names and Order of them that builded the Wall.

CHAP. IV.

1 *While the Enemies scoff Nehemiah prayeth and continueth the Work. 7 Understanding the Wrath and Secrets of the Enemy, he setteth a Watch. 13 He armeth the Labourers, 19 And giveth military Precepts.*

Ver. 1 **B**UT it came to pass, that when Sanballat heard that we builded the Wall, he was wroth, and took great Indignation, and mocked the Jews.

2 And he spake before his Brethren and the Army of Samaria, and said, What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an End in a Day? will they revive the Stones out of the Heaps of the Rubbish, which are burnt?

3 Now Tobiah said, Even that which they build, if a Fox go up, he shall even break down their Stone-wall.

4 Hear, O OUR GOD, for we are despised: and turn their Reproach upon their own Head, and give them for a Prey in the Land of Captivity.

5 And cover not their Iniquity, and let not their Sin be
N n n n z blotted

blotted out from before thee: for they have provoked thee to Anger before the Builders.

6 So built we the Wall; and all the Wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the People had a Mind to work.

7 But it came to pass that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the Walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the Breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth.

8 And conspired all of them together, to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it.

9 Nevertheless, we made our PRAYER unto our God, and set a Watch against them Day and Night, because of them.

14 And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the Nobles, and to the Rulers, and to the rest of the People, Be not ye afraid of them: REMEMBER the LORD which is GREAT and TERRIBLE, and fight for your Brethren, your Sons and your Daughters, your Wives and your Houses.

C H A P. V.

1 *The Jews complain of their Debt, Mortgage, and Bondage.*
6 *Nehemiah rebuketh the Usurers, and causeth them to make a Covenant of Restitution.* 14 *He forbeareth his own Allowance, and keepeth Hospitality.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND there was a great Cry of the People, and of their Wives against their Brethren the JEWS.

2 For there were that said, We, our Sons, and our Daughters are many: therefore we take up Corn for them, that we may eat and live.

3 Some also there were that said, We have MORTGAGED our Lands, Vineyards, and Houses, that we might BUY CORN, because of the DEARTH.

4 There were also that said, We have BORROWED MONEY for the KING'S TRIBUTE, and that upon our LANDS and VINEYARDS.

5 Yet now our Flesh is as the Flesh of our Brethren, our Children as their Children: and lo, we bring into BONDAGE our Sons and our Daughters to be Servants, and some of our

our Daughters are brought unto Bondage already, neither is it in our **POWER TO REDEEM THEM: FOR OTHER MEN HAVE OUR LANDS and VINEYARDS.**

6 And I was very angry when I heard their **CRY**, and these Words.

7 Then I consulted with my self, and I rebuked the Nobles, and the Rulers, and said unto them, You **EXACT USURY**, every one of his Brother. And I set a great **ASSEMBLY** against them.

8 And I said unto them, We after our Ability, have redeemed our Brethren the **JEWS**, which were sold unto the Heathen; and will you even **SELL** your Brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? then held they their Peace, and found nothing to answer.

9 Also I said, It is not good that ye do: ought ye not to **WALK** in the **FEAR** of our God, because of the Reproach of the Heathen our Enemies?

10 I likewise, and my Brethren, and my Servants, might exact of them Money and Corn: I pray you let us **LEAVE OFF** this **USURY**.

11 **RESTORE**, I pray you, to them even this Day, their **LANDS**, their **VINEYARDS**, their **OLIVE YARDS**, and their **HOUSES**, also the hundredth Part of the **MONEY**, and of the **CORN**, the **WINE**, and the **OYL**, that ye **EXACT** of them.

12 Then said they, We will **RESTORE** them, and will require nothing of them; so will we do as thou sayest. Then I called the **PRIESTS**, and took an Oath of them, that they should do according to this Promise.

13 Also I shook my Lap, and said, So God shake out every Man from his House and from his Labour, that performeth not this Promise, even thus be he shaken out, and emptied. And all the Congregation said, Amen, and **PRaised** the **LORD**. And the People did according to this Promise.

14 Moreover, from the Time that I was appointed to be their **GOVERNOR**, that is twelve Years, I and my Brethren have not eaten the Bread of the Governor.

15 But the former Governors that had been before me, were chargeable unto the People, and had taken of them Bread and Wine, besides forty Shekels of Silver, yea even their **SERVANTS** bear **RULE** over the **PEOPLE**: but so **DID** NOT I, because of the **FEAR** of God.

16 Yea, also I continued in the Work of this Wall, neither bought we any Land.

17 Moreover,

17 Moreover, there were at my Table an hundred and fifty of the Jews and Rulers, besides those that came unto us, from among the Heathen that are about us.

18 Now that which was prepared for me daily, was one Ox, and six choice Sheep; also Fowls were prepared for me, and once in ten Days, Store of all sorts of Wine: yet for all this required not I the Bread of the Governor, because the BONDAGE was heavy upon this PEOPLE.

19 THINK upon me, my GOD for GOOD, according to all that I have done for this People.

C H A P. VI.

1 *Sanballat practiseth by Craft, by Rumours, by hired Prophecies, to terrify Nehemiah.* 15 *The Work is finished to the Terror of the Enemies.* 17 *Secret Intelligence passeth between the Enemies, and the Nobles of Judah.*

Ver. 10 **A**FTERWARD I came unto the House of Shemaiah who was shut up; and he said, Let us meet together in the House of GOD, within the Temple, and let us shut the Doors of the Temple; for they will come to slay thee in the Night.

11 And I said, Should SUCH A MAN as I FLEE? and who is there that being as I am, would go into the Temple to save his Life? I will not go in.

12 And lo, I perceived that GOD had not sent him, but that he pronounced this Prophecy against me, for Tobiah and Sanballat had HIRED him.

13 Therefore was he hired, that I should be AFRAID, and do so, and SIN, and that they might have Matter for an evil Report, that they might REPROACH ME.

14 My GOD, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat, according to these their Works, and on the PROPHETESS Noadiah, and the rest of the PROPHETS, that would have put me in FEAR.

16 And it came to pass, when all our Enemies heard thereof, and all the Heathen that were about us saw these Things, they were much cast down in their own Eyes: for they perceived that this Work was wrought of our GOD.

C H A P.

CHAP. VII.

- 1 *Nehemiah committeth the Charge of Jerusalem to Hanani and Hananiah. 5 A Register of the Genealogy of them which came at the first out of Babylon. 8 Of the People, 39 Of the Priests, 43 Of the Levites, 46 Of the Nethinims, 57 Of Solomon's Servants, 63 And of the Priests which could not find their Pedigree. 66 The whole Number of them being 42360, their Substance. 70 Their Oblations.*

CHAP. VIII.

- 1 *The Religious Manner of reading and hearing the Law. 9 They comfort the People. 13 The Forwardness of them to hear, and be instructed. 16 They keep the Feast of Tabernacles.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND all the People gathered themselves together, and they spake unto Ezra the Scribe, to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel.

2 And Ezra the Priest brought the Law before the Congregation.

3 And he read therein, from the Morning until Mid-day, before the Men and the Women, and those that could understand, and the Ears of all the People were attentive unto the Book of the Law.

4 And Ezra stood upon a Pulpit of Wood, which they had made for the Purpose.

5 And Ezra opened the Book, and all the People stood up:

6 And Ezra BLESSED the LORD the GREAT GOD: and all the People answered AMEN, Amen, with LIFTING up their Hands: and they BOWED their Heads, and WORSHIPED the LORD with their Faces to the Ground.

7 Also Jeshua, and others, and the Levites caused the People to understand the Law: and the People stood in their Place.

8 So they read in the Book, in the Law of GOD DISTINCTLY, and gave the SENSE, and caused them to UNDERSTAND the Reading.

9 And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the Priest, the Scribe, and the Levites that taught the People, said unto all the People, This Day is HOLY unto the LORD
your

your God, mourn not, nor weep, for all the People wept, when they heard the Words of the Law.

10 Then he said unto them, Go your Way, eat the Fat, and drink the Sweet, and send Portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this Day is HOLY unto our LORD: neither be you sorry, for the Joy of the LORD is your STRENGTH.

11 So the Levites stilled all the People, saying, Hold your Peace, for the Day is HOLY, neither be ye grieved.

12 And all the People went their Way to eat and to drink, and to send Portions, and to make great Mirth, because they had UNDERSTOOD the Words that were declared unto them.

13 And on the second Day were gathered together the chief of the Fathers of all the People, the Priests and the Levites, unto Ezra, even to understand the Words of the LAW.

14 And they found written in the LAW which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the Children of Israel should dwell in Booths, in the Feast of the seventh Month:

15 And that they should publish and proclaim, in all their Cities and in Jerusalem, saying, Go forth unto the Mount, and fetch Olive, Pine, and Myrtle, and Palm-branches, and Branches of thick Trees, to make Booths, as it is written.

16 So the People went forth and brought them, and made themselves Booths, every one upon the Roof of his House, and in their Courts, and in the Courts of the House of God.

17 And all the Congregation made Booths, and sat under the Booths: for since the Days of Joshua the Son of Nun, unto that Day, had not the Children of Israel done so: and there was very great Gladness.

18 Also Day by Day, from the first Day, unto the last Day, he read in the Book of the LAW of GOD: and they kept the Feast seven Days, and on the eighth Day was a solemn Assembly, according unto the Manner.

C H A P. IX.

1 *A solemn Fast and Repentance of the People.* 4 *The Levites make a Religious Confession of God's Goodness, and their Wickedness.*

Ver. 1

Ver. 1 **N**OW in the twenty and fourth Day of this Month, the Children of Israel were assembled with **FASTING**, and with Sackcloths, and Earth upon them.

2 And the Seed of Israel separated themselves from all **STRANGERS**, and stood and confessed their **SINS**, and the **INIQUITIES** of their **FATHERS**.

3 And they stood up in their Place, and **READ** in the Book of the **LAW** of the **LORD** their **GOD**, one fourth part of the Day, and another fourth Part they **CONFESSED**, and **WORSHIPPED** the **LORD** their **GOD**,

4 Then stood upon the Stairs of the Levites, Jeshua, and Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani, and cried with a loud Voice unto the **LORD** their **GOD**.

5 And said, Stand up and **BLESS** the **LORD** your **GOD** for ever and ever; and blessed be thy **GLORIOUS NAME**, which is **EXALTED** above all **BLESSING** and **PRAISE**.

6 Thou, even thou art **LORD ALONE**, thou hast **MADE HEAVEN**, the **HEAVEN** of **HEAVENS** with all their **HOST**, the **EARTH** and all Things that are therein, the **SEAS** and all that is therein, and thou **PRESERVEST** them all, and the **HOST** of **HEAVEN** **WORSHIPPETH** thee.

7 Thou art the **LORD** the **GOD**, who didst chuse Abram, and broughtest him forth out of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the Name of Abraham:

8 And foundest his Heart faithful before thee, and madest a **COVENANT** with him, to give the Land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Jebusites, and the Girgashites, to give it, I say, to his Seed, and hast **PERFORMED** thy **WORDS**, for thou art **RIGHTEOUS**.

9 And didst see the Affliction of our Fathers in Egypt, and heardest their Cry by the red Sea:

10 And shewedst **SIGNS** and **WONDERS**, upon Pharaoh, and on all his Servants, and on all the People of his Land: for thou knowest that they dealt proudly against them: so didst thou get thee a Name, as it is at this Day.

11 And thou didst divide the Sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the Sea on the dry Land, and their **PERSECUTORS** thou threwest into the Deeps, as a Stone into the mighty Waters.

12 Moreover, thou **LEDDEST** them in the Day by a
O o o o cloudy

CLOUDY PILLAR; and in the Night by a PILLAR of FIRE, to give them Light in the Way wherein they should go.

13 Thou camest down also upon Mount SINAI, and SPAKEST with them from Heaven, and gavest them RIGHT Judgments, and true LAWS, good STATUTES and COMMANDMENTS:

14 And madest known unto them thy HOLY SABBATH, and commandedst them Precepts, Statutes, and LAWS, by the Hand of Moses thy Servant.

15 And gavest them BREAD from HEAVEN, for their Hunger, and broughtest forth Water for them out of the Rock, for their Thirst, and promisedst them that they should go in to possess the Land, which thou hadst sworn to give them.

16 But they and our Fathers dealt PROUDLY, and HARDNED their Necks, and HEARKNED not to thy COMMANDMENTS.

17 And REFUSED to OBEY, neither were MINDFUL OF thy WONDERS that thou didst among them: but HARDNED their NECKS, and in their REBELLION appointed a Captain to return to their BONDAGE: but thou art a GOD ready to FARDON, gracious and merciful, slow to Anger, and of great Kindness, and FORSŌOKEST them not.

18 Yea, when they had made them a molten CALF, and said, This is thy GOD that brought thee up out of Egypt, and had wrought great PROVOCATIONS:

19 Yet thou in thy MANIFOLD MERCIES FORSŌOKEST them not in the Wilderness: the PILLAR of the CLOUD departed not from them by Day, to lead them in the Way; neither the PILLAR of FIRE by Night to shew them LIGHT, and the Way wherein they should go.

20 Thou gavest also thy GOOD SPIRIT to INSTRUCT them, and withheldest not thy MANNA from their Mouth, and gavest them Water for their THIRST.

21 Yea, forty Years didst thou sustain them in the Wilderness, so that they lacked nothing; their CLOTHS waxed not Old, and their FEET SWELLED not.

22 Moreover, thou gavest them KINGDOMS and NATIONS, and didst divide them into Corners: so they possessed the Land of Sihon, and the Land of the King of Heshbon, and the Land of Og King of Bashan.

23 Their Children also MULTIPLIEDST thou as the STARS of Heaven, and broughtest them into the Land, concerning

N E H E M I A H. 651

cerning which thou hadst promised to their Fathers, that they should go in to possess it.

24 So the Children went in and possessed the Land, and thou SUBDUEDST before them the Inhabitants of the Land, and gavest them into their Hands, with their Kings, and the People of the Land, that they might do with them as they would.

25 And they took STRONG Cities, and a FAT Land, and possessed Houses full of all Goods, Wells digged, Vineyards and Olive-yards, and Fruit-trees in Abundance: So they did eat, and were filled, and became Fat, and delighted themselves in thy great Goodness.

26 Nevertheless they were DISOBEDIENT, and REBELLED against thee, and cast thy LAW behind their Backs, and SLEW thy PROPHETS, which testified against them to TURN them to THEE, and they wrought great PROVOCATIONS.

27 Therefore thou deliveredst them into the Hand of their Enemies, who vexed them: and in the Time of their TROUBLE when they cried unto thee, thou heardest them from HEAVEN; and according to thy MANIFOLD MERCIES, thou gavest them SAVIOURS, who saved them out of the Hand of their Enemies.

28 But after they had REST, they did EVIL again before thee: therefore ledest thou them in the Hand of their Enemies, so that they had the Dominion over them: yet when they RETURNED and cried unto thee, thou heardest them from Heaven, and many Times didst thou deliver them, according to thy MERCIES:

29 And testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them again unto thy LAW: yet they dealt PROUDLY, and hearkned not unto thy Commandments, but sinned against thy Judgments (which if a Man do, he shall live in them) and withdrew the Shoulder, and HARDNED their Neck, and would not HEAR.

30 Yet many Years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them, by thy SPIRIT in thy PROPHETS: yet would they not give Ear: therefore gavest thou them into the Hand of the People of the Lands.

31 Nevertheless, for thy great MERCIES Sake, thou didst not utterly CONSUME them, nor FORSAKE them; for thou art a GRACIOUS and MERCIFUL GOD.

32 Now therefore our GOD, the GREAT, the MIGHTY,
O o o o 2 and

and the TERRIBLE GOD, who keepest COVENANT and MERCY; let not all the Trouble seem little before thee, that hath come upon us, on our Kings, on our Princes, and on our Priests, and on our Prophets, and on our Fathers, and on all thy People, since the Time of the Kings of Assyria, unto this Day.

33 Howbeit, thou art JUST in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done RIGHT, but we have done WICKEDLY.

34 Neither have our KINGS, our PRINCES, our PRIESTS, nor our Fathers kept thy Law, nor hearkned unto thy Commandments, and thy Testimonies wherewith thou didst testify against them.

35 For they have not served thee in their KINGDOM, and in thy GREAT GOODNESS that thou gavest them, and in the large and FAT Land which thou gavest before them, neither TURNED they from their WICKED WORKS.

36 Behold, we are Servants this Day, and for the LAND that thou gavest unto our Fathers, to eat the Fruit thereof, and the Good thereof, behold, we are Servants in it.

37 And it yieldeth much Increase unto the Kings whom thou hast set over us, because of our Sins: also they have Dominion over our Bodies, and over our Cattle, at their Pleasure, and we are in great Distress.

38 And because of all this, we make a sure Covenant, and write it, and our Princes, Levites, and Priests seal unto it.

C H A P. X.

1 *The Names of them that sealed the Covenant.* 29 *The Points of the Covenant.*

Ver. 28 **A**ND the People, the Priests, the Levites, the Porters, the Singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the People of the Lands, unto the Law of GOD, their Wives, their Sons, and their Daughters, every one having Knowledge, and having Understanding.

29 They clave to their Brethren, and entred into a Curse and into an Oath, to walk in GOD's Law, which was given by Moses the Servant of GOD, and to observe and to do all the Commandments of the LORD our GOD, and his Judgments and his Statutes.

30 And

N E H E M I A H. 653

30 And that we would not give our Daughters unto the People of the Land, nor take their Daughters for our Sons.

31 And if the People of the Land bring Ware or any Vintuals on the Sabbath Day, to sell, that we would not buy it of them on the Sabbath, or on the Holy-day: and that we would leave the seventh Year, and the Exaction of every Debt.

32 Also we made Ordinances for us to charge ourselves yearly with a third part of the Shekel, for the Service of the House of our God.

33 For the Shew-bread, and for the continual Meat-offering, and for the continual Burmt-offering of the Sabbaths, of the New-moons, for the Set-feasts, and for the Holythings, and for the Sin-offerings, to make an Atonement for Israel, and for all the Work of the House of our God.

34 And we cast the Lots among the Priests, the Levites, and the People for the Wood-offering, to bring it into the House of our God, after the House of our Fathers, at Times appointed, Year by Year, to burn upon the Altar of the LORD our GOD, as it is written in the Law:

35 And to bring the First-Fruits of our Ground, and the First-fruits of all Fruit of all Trees, Year by Year, unto the House of the LORD:

36 Also the First-born of our Sons, and of our Cattle (as it is written in the Law) and the Firflings of our Herds, and of our Flocks, to bring to the House of our God, unto the Priests that minister in the House of our God:

37 And that we should bring the first Fruits of our Dough, and our Offerings, and the Fruit of all manner of Trees, of Wine, and of Oyl, unto the Priests, to the Chambers of the House of our God, and the Tithes of our Ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might have the Tithes, in all the Cities of our Tillage.

38 And the Priest the Son of Aaron, shall be with the Levites when the Levites take Tithes: and the Levites shall bring up the Tithe of the Tithes unto the House of our God, to the Chambers, into the Treasure-house.

39 For the Children of Israel, and the Children of Levi, shall bring the Offering of the Corn of the new Wine, and the Oyl, unto the Chambers, where are the Vessels of the Sanctuary, and the Priests that minister, and the Porters, and the Singers: and we will not forsake the House of our God.

C H A P.

C H A P. XL.

1 The Rulers, voluntary Men, and the Tenth Man chosen by Lot, dwell at Jerusalem. 3 A Catalogue of their Names.

C H A P. XII.

1 The Priests, 8 And the Levites which came up with Zerubabel.— 10 The Succession of High Priests.

C H A P. XIII.

1 Upon the reading of the Law, Separation is made from the mixed Multitude. 4 Nehemiah at his Return causeth the Chambers to be cleansed. 10 He reformeth the Offices in the House of God. 15 The Violation of the Sabbath, 23 And the Marriages with strange Wives.

Ver. 1 **O**N that Day they read in the Book of Moses in the Audience of the People; and therein was found written, that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the Congregation of God for ever.

2 Because they met not the Children of Israel with Bread and with Water, but hired Balaam against them, that he should curse them: Howbeit our God turned the Curse into a Blessing.

3 Now it came to pass when they had heard the Law, that they separated from Israel all the mixed Multitude.

4 And before this, Eliashib the Priest having the Oversight of the Chamber of the House of our God, was allied unto Tobiah.

5 And he had prepared for him a great Chamber, where aforetime they laid the Meat-offerings, the Frankincense, and the Vessels, and the Tithes of the Corn, the new Wine, and the Oyl (which was commanded to be given to the Levites, and the Singers, and the Porters) and the Offerings of the Priests.

6 But in all this Time was not I at Jerusalem: for in the two and thirtieth Year of Artaxerxes King of Babylon, came I unto the King, and after certain Days obtained I Leave of the King.

7 And I came to Jerusalem, and understood of the Evil that

that Eliashib did for Tobiah, in preparing him a Chamber in the Courts of the House of God.

8 And it grieved me sore, therefore I cast forth all the Household Stuff of Tobiah out of the Chamber.

9 Then I commanded, and they cleansed the Chambers: and thither brought I again the Vessels of the House of God, with the Meat-offering and the Frankincense.

10 And I perceived that the Portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the Singers that did the Work, were fled every one to his Field.

11 Then contended I with the Rulers, and said, Why is the House of God forsaken? and I gathered them together, and set them in their Place.

12 Then brought all Judah the Tithe of the Corn, and the new Wine, and the Oyl, unto the Treasuries.

13 And I made Treasurers over the Treasuries, Shelemiah the Priest, and Zadok the Scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah: and next to them was Hanan the Son of Zaccur, the Son of Mattaniah: for they were counted faithful, and their Office was to distribute to their Brethren.

14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good Deeds that I have done for the House of my God.

15 In those Days saw I in Judah some treading Wine-presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in Sheaves, and lading Asses; as also Wine, Grapes and Figs, and all manner of Burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath-day: and I testified against them in the Day wherein they sold Victuals.

16 There dwelt Men of Tyre also therein, which brought Fish, and all manner of Ware, and sold on the Sabbath unto the Children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

17 Then I contended with the Nobles of Judah, and said unto them, What evil Thing is this that ye do, and profane the Sabbath-day?

18 Did not your Fathers thus, and did not our God bring all this Evil upon us, and upon this City? yet ye bring more Wrath upon Israel by profaning the Sabbath.

19 And it came to pass, that when the Gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the Sabbath, I commanded that the Gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the Sabbath: and some of my Servants

set

set I at the Gates, that there should no Burthen be brought in on the Sabbath Day.

20 So the Merchants and Sellers of all kinds of Ware, lodged without Jerusalem once or twice.

21 Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the Wall? if ye do so again, I will lay Hands on you; from that Time forth came they no more on the Sabbath.

22 And I commanded the Levites, that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should come and keep the Gates, to sanctify the Sabbath-day. Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the Greatness of thy Mercy.

23 And in those Days also saw I Jews that had married Wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab:

24 And their Children spake half in the Speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews Language, but according to the Language of each People.

25 And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and pluckt off their Hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your Daughters unto their Sons, nor take their Daughters unto your Sons, or for your selves.

26 Did not Solomon King of Israel sin by these Things? yet among many Nations was there no King like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him King over all Israel, nevertheless even him did outlandish Women cause to sin.

27 Shall we then hearken unto you, to do all this great Evil, to transgress against our God, in marrying strange Wives?

28 And one of the Sons of Joiada, the Son of Eliahib the High Priest, was Son in Law to Sanballat the Horonite: therefore I chafed him from me.

29 Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the Priesthood, and the Covenant of the Priesthood, and of the Levites.

Thus cleansed I them from all Strangers, and appointed the Wards of the Priests and the Levites, every one in his Business.

31 And for the Wood-offering, at Times appointed, and for the first Fruits. Remember me, O my God, for Good.



ABSTRACT

OF THE

BOOK of *ESTHER*.

The PREFACE.



THE following Story may be styl'd a sacred Drama: The Actors are five Persons of very different Qualities, and acting very different Parts.

In the Story of Vashti is seen the Folly of an imperious Woman sacrificing her Royal Dignity to her Pride and Insolence.

In Queen Esther is seen the Picture of a most beautiful Woman, endued with the greatest Piety and Wisdom, which she expressed in preserving her People from utter Destruction; and this she resolutely attempted, even at the Hazard of her own Life, saying, *If I PERISH, I PERISH.*

In the Story of Mordecai, is found the Character of a most steady and resolved Virtue, exposing himself to the utmost Danger, rather than violate the Law of his God.

In the History of Haman is found the Character of a

P p p p

most

most insolent and rapacious Minister of State, justly punished for his Pride and Cruelty.

In the Part acted by Ahasuerus is clearly seen the sovereign Dominion of the Almighty, controuling the Counsels of Princes; for the very Night before the cruel Purpose of Haman against Mordecai was to be executed, the King became restless; his Sleep flying from him (to relieve himself) he calls for the Annals of his Reign, and there finds the great and unrewarded Services of Mordecai; whereupon he orders the greatest Honours to be done to him, and this to be performed by Haman his Favourite.

CHAP. I.

- 1 *Ahasuerus, called also Artaxerxes, maketh a Royal Feast. 10 Vashti the Queen sent for by the King refuseth to come, for which she is deposed. 13 Decree is made that all Wives should honour and obey their Husbands.*

CHAP. II.

- 1 *Out of the Choice of Virgins a Queen is to be chosen. 8 Esther a Jewess is preferred before the rest. 12 The manner of Purification and going in to the King. 15 Esther best pleasing the King is made Queen. 21 Mordecai, the Uncle of Esther, discovering the Treason of two of the King's Chamberlains is recorded in the Chronicles.*

Ver. 1 **W**HEN the Wrath of King Ahasuerus was appeased, he remembred Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.

2 Then said the King's Servants unto him, Let there be fair young Virgins sought for the King.

3 And let the King appoint Officers in all the Provinces of his Kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young Virgins unto Shushan, the Palace to the House of the Women, unto the Custody of Hege the King's Chamberlain Keeper of the Women, and let their Things for Purification be given them.

4 And let the Maiden which pleaseth the King, be Queen instead

instead of Vashti. And the Thing pleased the King, and he did so.

5 Now in Shushan, the Palace, there was a certain Jew whose Name was Mordecai, a Benjamite.

6 Who had been carried away in the Captivity of Jecooniah King of Judah.

7 And he brought up Haddasfa (that is Esther) his Uncle's Daughter, and the Maiden was fair and beautiful, whom Mordecai, when her Father and Mother were dead, took for his Daughter.

8 So it came to pass when the King's Commandment was heard, and when many Maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the Palace, that Esther was brought also to the King's House to the Custody of Hegai, Keeper of the Women,

9 And the Maiden pleased him, and she obtained Kindness of him, and he speedily gave her Things for Purification, and seven Maidens which were meet to be given her, and he first preferred her and her Maids to the best Place of the House of the Women.

10 Esther had not shewed her People, nor her Kindred: for Mordecai had charged her that she should not shew it.

11 And Mordecai walked every Day before the Court of the Womens House, to know how Esther did, and what should become of her.

12 Now when the Turn of Esther was come to go in unto the King, she required nothing, but what Hegai the King's Chamberlain, the Keeper of the Women, appointed: and Esther obtained Favour in the Sight of all them that looked upon her.

13 So Esther was taken unto King Ahasuerus into his House Royal, in the tenth Month, in the seventh Year of his Reign.

14 And the King loved Esther above all the Women, and she obtained Grace and Favour in his Sight, more than all the Virgins; so that he set the Royal Crown upon her Head, and made her Queen instead of Vashti.

15 Then the King made a great Feast unto all his Princes and his Servants.

16 Esther had not yet shewed her Kindred, nor her People; as Mordecai had charged her: for Esther did the Commandment of Mordecai, like as when she was brought up with him.

17 In those Days (while Mordecai sat in the King's Gate,

Gate) two of the King's Chamberlains, Bigthem and Teresh, of those which kept the Door, were wroth, and fought to lay Hand on the King Ahafuerus.

22 And the Thing was known of Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the Queen, and Esther certified the King thereof, in Mordecai's Name.

23 And when Inquisition was made of the Matter, it was found out; therefore they were both hanged on a Tree and it was written in the Book of the Chronicles before the King.

C H A P. III.

1 Haman advanced by the King and despised by Mordecai, seeketh Revenge upon all the Jews. 7 He casteth Lots. 8 He obtaineth a Decree to put the Jews to Death.

Ver. 1. **A**FTER these Things did Ahafuerus promote Haman the Hagagite, and set his Seat above all the Princes that were with him.

2 And all the King's Servants bowed and revered Haman; for the King had so commanded: but Mordecai bowed not, nor did him Reverence.

3 Then the King's Servants said unto Mordecai, Why transgresses thou the King's Commandment?

5 And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him Reverence, then was Haman full of Wrath.

6 And he thought Scorn to lay Hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the People of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole Kingdom of Ahafuerus.

7 In the first Month (that is the Month Nisan) in the twelfth Year of King Ahafuerus, they cast Pur, that is the Lot, before Haman from Day to Day, to the twelfth Month that is the Month Adar.

8 And Haman said unto the King, There is a certain People scattered abroad, and dispersed among the People, in all the Provinces of thy

Prov. xvi. 33 The Lot is casten into the Lap: but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord.

Prov. xxi. 31 There is no Wisdom, nor Understanding, nor Counsel against the Lord.

Job v. 12 He disappointeth the Devices of the Crafty, so that their Hand cannot perform their Enterprize.

13 He taketh the Wife in their own Craftiness, and the Counsel of the froward is carried headlong.

Numb. xxiii. 23 Surely there is no Enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any Divination against Is-

Kingdom

Kingdom, and their Laws are divers from all People, neither keep they the King's Laws; therefore it is not for the King's Profit to suffer them.

rael, according to this Time shall it be said of Jacob, and of Israel, What hath God wrought?

9 If it please the King, let it be written that they may be destroyed: and I will pay * ten thousand Talents of Silver to the Hands of those that have the Charge of the Business, to bring into the King's Treasuries.

10 And the King took his Ring from his Hand, and gave it unto Haman the Jews Enemy.

11 And the King said unto Haman, The Silver is given to thee, the People also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.

12 Then were the King's Scribes called on the thirteenth Day of the Month, and there was written according to all that Haman had commanded unto the King's Lieutenants, and to the Rulers of every People of every Province, according to the Writing thereof, and to every People after their Language, in the Name of King Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the King's Ring.

13 And the Letters were sent by Posts into all the King's Provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish all Jews, both young and old, little Children and Women, in one Day, upon the thirteenth Day of the twelfth Month, and to take the Spoil of them for a Prey.

14 The Copy of the Writing for a Commandment to be given to every Province, was published to all People, that they should be ready against that Day.

15 The Post went out, being hastned by the King's Commandment, and the Decree was given in Shushan the Palace: and the King and Haman sat down to drink, but the City Shushan was perplexed.

C H A P. IV.

1 *The great Mourning of Mordecai and the Jews.* 4 *Esther understanding of it sendeth to Mordecai, who sheweth the Cause, and adviseth her to undertake the Suit.* 10 *She excusing herself is threatened by Mordecai.* 15 *She appointing a Fast undertaketh the Suit.*

* Note, ten Thousand Babylonish Talents are by Dr. Prideaux computed to amount to 2119000 Pounds.

Ver. 1 **W**HEN ²Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his Cloaths, and put on Sackcloth with Ashes, and went out into the midst of the City, and cried with a loud and a bitter Cry.

² And came even before the King's Gate: for none might enter into the King's Gate cloathed with Sackcloth.

³ And in every Province whithersoever the King's Commandment, and his Decree came, there was great Mourning among the Jews, and Fasting, and Weeping, and Wailing, and many lay in Sackcloth and Ashes.

⁴ So Esther's Maids, and her Chamberlains came and told it her: Then was the Queen exceedingly grieved, and she sent Raiment to cloth Mordecai, and to take away his Sackcloth from him, but he received it not.

⁵ Then called Esther for Hatach, one of the King's Chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her; and gave him a Commandment to Mordecai, to know what it was, and why it was.

⁶ So Hatach went forth to Mordecai, unto the Street of the City, which was before the King's Gate.

⁷ And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the Sum of the

² *Psal. xlvii.* The Lord is my Light, and my Salvation, whom shall I fear? the Lord is the Strength of my Life, of whom shall I be afraid.

² When the Wicked, even mine Enemies and my Foes came upon me to eat up my Flesh, they stumbled and fell.

³ Though an Host should encamp against me, my Heart shall not fear: though War should rise against me, this will I be confident.

⁴ One Thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the House of the Lord all the Days of my Life, to behold the Beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his Temple.

⁵ For in the Time of Trouble he shall hide me in his Pavilion: in the Secret of his Tabernacle shall he hide me, he shall set me up upon a Rock.

⁶ And now shall mine Head be lifted up above mine Enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his Tabernacle Sacrifices of Joy, I will sing, yea, I will sing Praises unto the Lord.

⁷ Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my Voice: have Mercy also upon me, and answer me.

⁸ When thou saidst, Seek ye my Face; my Heart said unto thee, Thy Face, Lord, will I seek.

⁹ Hide not thy Face far from me, put not thy Servant away in Anger: thou hast been my Help, leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my Salvation.

¹⁰ When my Father and my Mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.

¹¹ Teach me thy Way, and lead me in a plain Path, because of mine Enemies.

¹² Deliver me not over unto the Will of mine Enemies: for false Witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breath out Cruelty.

¹³ I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the Goodness of the Lord in the Land of the Living.

¹⁴ Wait on the Lord, be of good Courage, and he shall strengthen thine Heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.

Money

Money that Haman had promised to pay the King's Treasuries for the Jews to destroy them.

8 Also he gave him the Copy of the Decree that was given to destroy them, to shew it unto Esther, and to charge her that she should go in unto the King, to make Supplication unto him, and to make Request before him for her People.

9 Then Hatach came and told Esther the Words of Mordecai.

10 Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him Commandment unto Mordecai.

11 * All the People of the King's Provinces do know, that whosoever Man or Woman, shall come unto the King into the inner Court, who is not called, there is one Law of his to put him to Death, except such to whom the King shall hold out the golden Sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the King, these thirty Days.

12 And they told Mordecai Esther's Words.

13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thy self that thou shalt escape in the King's House more than all the Jews.

14 For if thou altogether holdest thy Peace at this Time, then shall there Enlargement and Deliverance arise to the Jews from another Place, but thou and thy Father's House shall be destroyed: and who knoweth, whether thou art come to the Kingdom for such a Time as this?

15 Then Esther bad them return Mordecai this Answer.

16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three Days, Night nor Day: I also and my Maidens will fast likewise, and so will I go in unto the King, which is not according to the Law; and if I perish, I perish.

* Note, it is evident, that many of the Psalms have a Relation to the State of the Jewish and Christian Church, in their several Captivities, and Persecutions under the Pagan and Christian Empires.

It may be presum'd that this excellent Princess was animated to so hazardous an Undertaking, by reading and meditating upon the 27th Psalm, in which are many Expressions, which seem to refer to the great Affliction the Jews were under at this Time. The Decree being for the Destruction of Man, Woman, and Child. Their Deliverance by the Divine Providence was so very wonderful, that the Jews have in all Ages since, and do to this Time celebrate both the Fast and Feast, which they call Purim.

17 So Mordecai went his Way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

C H A P. V.

1 *Esther adventuring on the King's Favour, obtaineth the Grace of the golden Sceptre; and inviteth the King and Haman to a Banquet. 6 She being encouraged by the King in her Suit, inviteth them to another Banquet the next Day. Haman proud of his Advancement, repineth at the Contempt of Mordecai. 14 By the Counsel of his Wife, he buildeth for him a Gallows.*

Ver. 1 **N**OW it came to pass on the third Day, that Esther put on the Royal Apparel, and stood in the inner Court of the King's House: and the King sat upon his Royal Throne.

2 And it was so when the King saw Esther the Queen standing in the Court, that she obtained Favour in his Sight: and the King held out to Esther the golden Sceptre that was in his Hand: so Esther drew near, and touched the Top of the Sceptre.

3 Then said the King unto her, What wilt thou, Queen Esther? and what is thy Request? it shall be given thee, to the half of the Kingdom.

4 And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the King, let the King and Haman come this Day unto the Banquet that I have prepared for him.

5 Then the King said, Cause Haman to make Haste, that he may do as Esther hath said. So the King and Haman came to the Banquet.

6 And the King said unto Esther at the Banquet, What is thy Petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy Request? even to the half of the Kingdom.

7 Then answered Esther, and said, My Petition, and my Request is;

8 If I have found Favour in the Sight of the King, and if it please the King to grant my Petition, and to perform my Request, let the King and Haman come to the Banquet that I shall provide for them, and I will do to Morrow as the King hath said.

9 Then went Haman forth that Day, joyful, and with a glad Heart: but when he saw Mordecai in the King's Gate,

Gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of Indignation against Mordecai.

10 Nevertheless, Haman refrained himself, and when he came Home, he sent and called for his Friends, and Zereſh his Wife.

11 ¹ And Haman told them of the Glory of his Riches, and the Multitude of his Children, and all the Things wherein the King had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the Princes and Servants of the King.

12 Haman ſaid moreover, Yea, Eſther the Queen did let no Man come in with the King unto the Banquet that ſhe had prepared, but my ſelf; and to Morrow am I invited unto her alſo with the King.

13 Yet all this availeth me nothing, ſo long as I ſee Mordecai the Jew ſitting at the King's Gate.

14 ^m Then ſaid his Wife, and all his Friends unto him, Let a Gallows be made of fifty Cubits high, and to Morrow ſpeak unto the King, that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in merrily with the King unto the Banquet. And the Thing pleaſed Haman, and he cauſed the Gallows to be made.

5 Let the Enemy perſecute my Soul, and take it; yea, let him tread down my Life upon the Earth, and lay mine Honour in the Duſt. Selah.

6 Ariſe, O Lord, in thine Anger, liſt up thy ſelf, becauſe of the Rage of mine Enemies: and awake for me to the Judgment that thou haſt commanded.

7 So ſhall the Congregation of the People compaſs thee about: for their Sakes therefore return thou on high.

8 The Lord ſhall judge the People: judge me, O Lord, according to my Righteouſneſs, and according to mine Integrity that is in me.

9 Oh let the Wickedneſs of the Wicked come to an End, but eſtabliſh the Juſt: for the Righteous God trieth the Hearts and Reins.

10 My Defence is of God, which ſaveth the Upright in Heart.

11 God judgeth the Righteous, and God is angry with the Wicked every Day.

¹ *Pſal. lii.* Why boaſteſt thou thy ſelf in Miſchief, O mighty Man? the Goodneſs of God endureth continually.

² Thy Tongue deviſeth Miſchiefs: like a ſharp Razor, working deceitfully.

⁵ God ſhall deſtroy thee for ever, he ſhall take thee away, and pluck thee out of thy Dwelling-place, and root thee out of the Land of the Living.

⁶ The Righteous alſo ſhall ſee and fear, and ſhall laugh at him.

⁷ Lo, this is the Man that made not God his Strength, but truſted in the Abundance of his Riches, and ſtrengthened himſelf in his Wickedneſs.

^m *Pſal. vii.* O Lord my God, in thee do I put my Truſt: ſave me from all them that perſecute me, and deliver me.

² Left he tear my Soul like a Lion, renting it in Pieces, while there is none to deliver.

³ O Lord my God, if I have done this; if there be Iniquity in my Hands:

⁴ If I have rewarded Evil unto him that was at Peace with me: (yea, I have delivered him that without Cauſe is mine Enemy.)

C H A P. VI.

1 Ahasuerus reading in the Chronicles of the good Service done by Mordecai, taketh Care for his Reward. 4 Haman coming to sue that Mordecai might be hanged, unawares giveth Counsel that he might do him Honour. 12 Complaining of his Misfortune his Friends tell him of his final Destiny.

Ver. 1 **O**N ^a that Night couldnot the King sleep, and he commanded to bring the Book of Records of the Chronicles; and they were read before the King.

2 And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the King's Chamberlains, the Keepers of the Door, who sought to lay Hand on the King Ahasuerus.

3 And the King said, What Honour and Dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the King's Servants, There is nothing done for him.

4 And the King said, Who is in the Court? (Now Haman was come into the outward Court of the King's House, to speak unto the King, to hang Mordecai on the Gallows that he had prepared for him.)

5 And the King's Servants said unto him, Haman standeth in the Court. And the King said, Let him come in.

6 And the King said unto

^a *Psal. lxxlii. I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the Prosperity of the Wicked.*

17 Until I went into the Sanctuary of God, then understood I their End.

18 Surely thou didst set them in slippery Places: thou castedst them down into Destruction.

19 How are they brought into Desolation, as in a Moment! they are utterly consumed with Terrors.

Job xx. 4 Knowest thou not this of old, since Man was plac'd upon the Earth.

5 That the Triumphant of the Wicked is short, and the Joy of the Hypocrite but for a Moment.

6 Though his Excellency mount up to the Heavens, and his Head reach unto the Clouds.

7 Yet he shall perish for ever, like his own Dung: they which have seen him shall say, Where is he?

8 He shall fly away as a Dream, and shall not be found: yea, he shall be chased away as the Vision of the Night.

9 The Eye also which see him, shall see him no more; neither shall his Place any more behold him.

10 His Children shall seek to please the Poor, and his Hands shall restore their Goods.

11 His Bones are full of the Sin of his Youth, which shall lie down with him in the Dust.

12 Though Wickedness be sweet in his Mouth, though he hide it under his Tongue.

13 Though he spare it, and forsake it not; but keep it still within his Mouth.

him

him, What shall be done unto the Man whom the King delighteth to honour? (Now Haman thought in his Heart, To whom would the King delight to do Honour more than my self?)

7 And he answered the King, For the Man whom the King delighteth to honour,

8 Let the Royal Apparel be brought which the King useth to wear, and the Horse that the King rideth upon, and the Crown Royal which is set upon his Head:

9 And let this Apparel and Horse be delivered to the Hand of one of the King's most noble Princes, that they may array the Man withal whom the King delighteth to honour, and bring him on Horseback through the Street of the City, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the Man whom the King delighteth to honour.

10 Then the King said to Haman, Make haste, and take the Apparel and the Horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the King's Gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.

11 Then took Haman the Apparel and the Horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on Horseback through the Street of the City, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the Man whom the King delighteth to honour.

12 And Mordecai came again to the King's Gate: but Haman hasted to his House, mourning, and having his Head covered.

13 And Haman told his Wife, and all his Friends, every Thing that had befallen him. Then said his wife Men, and

Q q q q 2

his

14 Yet this Meat in his Bowels is turned, it is the Gall of Asps within him.

15 He hath swallowed down Riches, and he shall vomit them up again: God shall cast them out of his Belly.

16 That which he laboured for shall he restore, and shall not swallow it down: according to his Substance shall the Restitution be, and he shall not rejoice therein.

19 Because he hath oppressed, and hath forsaken the Poor, because he hath violently taken away an House which he builded not.

23 When he is about to fill his Belly, God shall cast the Fury of his Wrath upon him, and shall smite him while he is eating.

26 All Darknes shall be hid in his secret Place: a Fire not blown shall consume him; it shall go ill with him that is left in his Tabernacle.

27 The Heaven shall reveal his Iniquity: and the Earth shall rise up against him.

31 The Increase of his House shall depart, and his Goods shall flow away in the Day of his Wrath.

29 This is the Portion of a wicked Man from God, and the Heritage appointed unto him by God.

his Wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the Seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.

14 And while they were yet talking with him, came the King's Chamberlains, and hasted to bring Haman unto the Banquet that Esther had prepared.

C H A P. VII.

1 Esther entertaining the King and Haman, maketh Suit for her own Life and her Peoples. 5 She accuseth Haman. 7 The King in his Anger understanding of the Gallows which Haman had made for Mordecai, causeth him to be hanged thereon.

SO the King and Haman came to banquet with the Queen.

2 And the King said again to Esther, on the second Day, at the Banquet, What is thy Petition, Queen Esther? and it shall be performed even to the half of the Kingdom.

3 Then the Queen answered and said, If I have found Favour in thy Sight, O King, and if it please the King, let my LIFE be given me at my Petition, and my PEOPLE at my Request.

4 For we are sold, I and my People, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish: but if we had been sold for Bond-men and Bond-women, I had held my Tongue, although the Enemy could not countervail the King's Damage.

5 Then the King Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther, Who is he? and where is he that durst presume in his Heart to do so?

6 And Esther said, The Adversary and Enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the King and the Queen.

7 And the King arising from the Banquet in his Wrath, went into the Palace Garden; and Haman stood up to make Request for his Life to the Queen: for he saw that there was Evil determined against him by the King.

8 Then the King returned out of the Palace Garden, into the Place of the Banquet of Wine; and Haman was fallen upon the Bed whereon Esther was. Then said the King, Will he force the Queen also before me in the House? As
the

the Word went out of the King's Mouth, they covered Haman's Face.

9 ° And Harbonah, one of the Chamberlains, said before the King, Behold also the Gallows fifty Cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the King, standeth in the House of Haman. Then the King said, Hang him thereon.

10 So they hanged Haman on the Gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the King's Wrath pacified.

° *Psal. ix. 15* The Heathen are sunk down in the Pit that they made: in the Net which they hid is their own Foot taken.

16 The Lord is known by the Judgment which he executeth: the Wicked are snared in the Work of his own Hands.

17 The Wicked shall be turned into Hell, and all the Nations that forget God.

18 For the Needy shall not alway be forgotten: the Expectation of the Poor shall not perish for ever.

19 Arise, O Lord, let not Man prevail, let the Heathen be judged in thy Sight.

23 Put them in Fear, O Lord: that the Nations may know themselves to be but Men.

C H A P. VIII.

1 *Mordecai is advanced.* 3 *Esther maketh Suit to reverse Haman's Letters.* 7 *Ahasuerus granteth to the Jews to defend themselves.* 15 *Mordecai's Honour, and the Jew's Joy.*

Ver. 1 **O**N^P that Day did the King Ahasuerus give the House of Haman the Jew's Enemy, unto Esther the Queen: and Mordecai came before the King; for Esther had told what he was unto her.

2 And the King took off his Ring which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over all the House of Haman.

7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thy self because of him who prospereth in his Way, because of the Man who bringeth wicked Devices to pass.

8 Cease from Anger, and forsake Wrath: fret not thy self in any wise to do Evil.

9 For evil Doers shall be cut off, but those that wait upon the Lord, shall inherit the Earth.

° *Psal. xxxvii. 1* Fret not thy self because of evil Doers, neither be thou envious against the Workers of Iniquity.

2 For they shall soon be cut down like the Grass, and wither as the green Herb.

3 Trust in the Lord, and do good, so shalt thou dwell in the Land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

4 Delight thy self also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the Desires of thine Heart.

5 Commit thy Way unto the Lord; trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass.

6 And he shall bring forth thy Righteousness as the Light, and thy Judgment as the Noon Day.

10 For yet a little while, and the Wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his Place, and it shall not be.

11 But the Meek shall inherit the Earth: and shall delight themselves in the Abundance of Peace.

12 The Wicked plotteth against the Just, and gaspeth upon him with his Teeth.

13 The Lord shall laugh at him, for he seeth that his Day is coming.

14 The Wicked have drawn out the Sword, and have bent their Bow to cast down the Poor and Needy, and to slay such as be of upright Conversation.

15 Their Sword shall enter into their own Heart, and their Bow shall be broken.

16 A little that a Righteous Man hath, is better than the Riches of many Wicked.

17 For the Arms of the Wicked shall be broken: but the Lord upholdeth the Righteous.

18 The Lord knoweth the Days of the Upright, and their Inheritance shall be for ever.

19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil Time, and in the Days of Famine they shall be satisfied.

20 But the Wicked shall perish, and the Enemies of the Lord shall be as the Fat of Lambs, they shall consume: into Smoke shall they consume away.

21 For such as be blessed of him, shall inherit the Earth; and they that be cursed of him, shall be cut off:

22 The Steps of a good Man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his Way.

23 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his Hand.

24 I have been young, and now am old: yet have I not seen the Righteous forsaken, nor his Seed begging Bread.

25 Depart from Evil, and do Good: and dwell for evermore.

26 For the Lord loveth Judgment, and forsaketh not his Saints, they are preserved for ever: but the Seed of the Wicked shall be cut off.

27 The Wicked watcheth the Righteous, and seeketh to slay him.

28 The Lord will not leave him in his Hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.

29 Wait on the Lord, and keep his Way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the Land: When the Wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

30 I have seen the Wicked in great Power: and spreading himself like a green Bay-tree.

31 Yet he passed away, and lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.

32 Mark the perfect Man, and behold the Upright: for the End of that Man is Peace.

33 But the Transgressors shall be destroyed together, the End of the Wicked shall be cut off.

34 But the Salvation of the Righteous is of the Lord, he is their Strength in Time of Trouble.

35 And the Lord shall help and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the Wicked, and save them because they trust in him.

3 ¹ And Esther spake yet again before the King, and fell down at his Feet, and besought him with Tears, to put away the Mischief of Ha-

² *Psalm. x. 13* Wherefore doth the Wicked condemn God? he hath said in his Heart, Thou wilt not require it.

34 Thou hast seen it, for thou beholdest Mischief and Spite to requite it with thy Hand: the Poor com-

man the Agagite, and his Device that he had devised against the Jews.

4 Then the King held out the golden Sceptre towards Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the King,

5 And said, If it please the King, if I have found Favour in his Sight, and the Thing seem right before the King, and I be pleasing in his Eyes, let it be written to reverse the Letters devised by Haman, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the King's Provinces.

6 For how can I endure to see the Evil that shall come unto my People? or how can I endure to see the Destruction of my Kindred?

7 Then the King said unto the Queen, and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the House of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the Gallows, because he laid his Hand upon the Jews.

8 Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the King's Name, and seal it with the King's Ring: for the Writing which is written in the King's Name, and sealed with the King's Ring, may no Man reverse.

9 Then were the King's Scribes called in the third Month, and it was written (according to all that Mordecai commanded) unto the Jews, and to the Lieutenants, and the Deputies, and Rulers of the Provinces, which are from India unto Ethiopia, an hundred and

mitteth himself unto thee, thou art the Helper of the Fatherless.

15 Break thou the Arm of the Wicked, and the evil Man: seek out his Wickedness 'till thou find none.

16 The Lord is King for ever and ever: the Heathen are punished out of the Land.

17 Lord, thou hast heard the Desire of the Humble: thou wilt prepare their Heart, thou wilt cause thine Ear to hear.

18 To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the Man of the Earth may no more oppress.

¹ Psal. xci. 1 He that dwelleth in the secret Place of the most High, shall abide under the Shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge, and my Fortress, my God in him will I trust.

3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the Snare of the Fowler: and from the noisom Pestilence.

4 Thou shalt not be afraid for the Terror by Night: nor for the Arrow that flieth by Day.

5 Nor for the Pestilence that walketh in Darkness: nor for the Destruction that wasteth at noon Day.

6 A Thousand shall fall at thy Side, and Ten Thousand at thy right Hand: but it shall not come nigh thee.

7 Only with thine Eyes shall thou behold, and see the Reward of the Wicked.

8 Because thou hast made the Lord which is my Refuge, even the most High, thy Habitation:

9 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in Trouble, I will deliver him, and honour him.

10 With long Life will I satisfy him, and shew him my Salvation.

twenty seven Provinces, and unto every People after their Language, and to the Jews according to their Writing, and according to their Language.

10 And he wrote in the King Ahasuerus Name, and sealed it with the King's Ring, and sent Letters by Post on Horseback, and Riders on Mules, Camels, and young Dromedaries:

11 Wherein the King granted the Jews, which were in every City, to gather themselves together, and to stand for their Life, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish all the Power of the People and Province, that would assault them, both little ones, and Women, and to take the Spoil for a Prey.

12 Upon one Day, in all the Provinces of King Ahasuerus, namely upon the thirteenth Day of the twelfth Month, which is the Month Adar.

13 The Copy of the Writing, for a Commandment to be given in every Province, was published unto all People, and that the Jews should be ready against that Day, to avenge themselves on their Enemies.

14 So the Posts went out, being hastned, and pressed on by the King's Commandment; and the Decree was given at Shushan the Palace.

15 And Mordecai went out from the Presence of the King, in Royal Apparel of blew and white, and with a great Crown of Gold, and with a Garment of fine Linen, and Purple; and the City of Shushan rejoiced and was glad:

16 The Jews had Light and Gladness, and Joy, and Honour.

17 * And in every Province, and in every City, whithersoever the King's Commandment and his Decree came, the Jews had Joy and Gladness, a Feast and a good Day: and MANY of the PEOPLE of the LAND became JEWS; for the FEAR of the JEWS fell upon THEM.

* *Psal. xl.* I waited patiently for the LORD, and he inclined unto me, and heard my Cry.

2 He brought me up also out of an horrible Pit, out of the miry Clay, and set my Feet upon a Rock, and established my Goings.

3 And he hath put a new Song in my Mouth, even Praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and trust in the LORD.

C H A P. IX.

1 The Jews (the Rulers for fear of Mordecai helping them) slay their Enemies with the ten Sons of Haman. 12 Abasuerus at the Request of Esther granteth another Day of Slaughter, and Haman's Sons to be hanged. 20 The two Days of Purim are made Festival.

Ver. 1 **N**OW ¹ in the twelfth Month (that is the Month Adar) on the thirteenth Day of the same, when the King's Commandment and his Decree drew near to be put in Execution, in the Day that the Enemies of the Jews hoped to have Power over them, though it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had Rule over them that hated them.

² The Jews gathered themselves together in their Cities, throughout all the Provinces of the King Ahafuerus, to lay Hand on such as sought their Hurt; and no Man could withstand them: for the fear of them fell upon all People.

³ And all the Rulers of the Provinces, and the Lieutenants, and the Deputies, and Officers of the King helped the Jews: because the Fear of Mordecai fell upon them.

⁴ For Mordecai was great in the King's House, and his Fame went out throughout all the Provinces: for this Man Mordecai waxed greater and greater.

⁵ Thus the Jews smote all their Enemies with the Stroke of the Sword, and Slaughter, and Destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them.

⁶ And in Shushan the Palace the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred Men.

⁷ And Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha.

R r r

And

¹ *Is. xiv. 1* For the Lord will have Mercy on Jacob, and will yet chuse Israel, and set them in their own Land: and the Strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the House of Jacob.

Psal. cxxiv. 1 If it had not been the Lord, who was on our Side, now may Israel say:

² If it had not been the Lord, who was on our Side, when Men rose up against us.

³ Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their Wrath was kindled against us.

⁴ Then the Waters had overwhelmed us, the Stream had gone over our Soul.

⁵ Then the proud Waters had gone over our Soul.

⁶ Blessed be the Lord who hath not given us as a Prey to their Teeth.

⁷ Our Soul is escaped as a Bird out of the Snare of the Fowlers, the Snare is broken, and we are escaped.

⁸ Our Help is in the Name of the Lord, who made Heaven and Earth.

8 And Poratha, and Adaliah, and Aridatha.

9 And Permashta, Arisai, and Aridai, and Vajezatha.

10 The ten Sons of Haman the Son of Hammedatha, the Enemy of the Jews, slew they; but on the Spoil laid they not their Hand.

11 On that Day, the Number of those that were slain in Shushan the Palace, was brought before the King.

12 And the King said unto Esther the Queen, The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred Men in Shushan the Palace, and the ten Sons of Haman; what have they done in the rest of the King's Provinces? now what is thy Petition? and it shall be granted thee: or what is thy Request further? and it shall be done.

13 Then said Esther, If it please the King, let it be granted to the Jews which are in Shushan, to do to Morrow also according unto this Days Decree, and let Haman's ten Sons be hanged upon the Gallows.

14 And the King commanded it so to be done; and the Decree was given at Shushan, and they hanged Haman's ten Sons.

15 For the Jews that were in Shushan, gathered themselves together on the fourteenth Day also of the Month Adar, and slew three hundred Men at Shushan; but on the Prey they laid not their Hand.

16 But the other Jews that were in the King's Provinces, gathered themselves together and stood for their Lives, and had Rest from their Enemies, and slew of their Foes seventy and five thousand, but they laid not their Hands on the Prey.

17 On the thirteenth Day of the Month Adar, and on the fourteenth Day of the same, rested they, and made it a Day of Feasting and Gladness.

18 But the Jews that were at Shushan, assembled on the thirteenth Day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth Day of the same they rested, and made it a Day of Feasting and Gladness.

19 Therefore the Jews of the Villages, that dwelt in the unwall'd Towns, made the fourteenth Day of the Month Adar, a Day of Gladness and Feasting, and a good Day, and of sending Portions one to another.

20 And Mordecai wrote these Things, and sent Letters unto all the Jews that were in all the Provinces of the King Ahasuerus, both nigh and far.

21 To

21 To stablish this among them, that they should keep the fourteenth Day of the Month Adar, and the fifteenth Day of the same yearly:

22 As the Days wherein the Jews rested from their Enemies, and the Month which was turned unto them from Sorrow to Joy, and from Mourning into a good Day: that they should make them Days of Feasting and Joy, and of sending Portions one to another, and Gifts to the Poor.

23 And the Jews undertook to do as they had begun, and as Mordecai had written unto them.

24 Because Haman the Son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Enemy of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur (that is the Lot) to consume them, and to destroy them.

25 But when Esther came before the King, he commanded by Letters, that his wicked Device which he devised against the Jews, should return upon his own Head, and that he and his Sons should be hanged on the Gallows.

26 Wherefore they called these Days Purim, after the Name of Pur: therefore for all the Words of this Letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this Matter, and which had come unto them,

27 The Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their Seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two Days according to the Writing, and according to their appointed Time every Year.

28 And that these Days should be remembered, and kept throughout every Generation, every Family, every Province, and every City; and that these Days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the Memorial of them perish from their Seed.

29 Then Esther the Queen, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all Authority, to confirm this second Letter of Purim.

30 And he sent the Letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven Provinces of the Kingdom of Ahasuerus, with Words of Peace and Truth.

31 To confirm these Days of Purim in their Times appointed, according as Mordecai the Jew, and Esther the Queen had enjoined them, and as they had decreed for themselves, and for their Seed, the Matters of the Fastings and their Cry.

32 And the Decree of Esther confirmed these Matters of Purim, and it was written in the Book.

CHAP. X.

1 *Ahasuerus his Greatness.* 3 *Mordecai's Advancement.*

Ver. 1 **A**ND the King Ahasuerus laid a Tribute upon the Land, and upon the Isles of the Sea.

2 And all the Acts of his Power, and of his Might, and the Declaration of the Greatness of Mordecai, whereunto the King advanced him, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Media and Persia?

3 For Mordecai the Jew was next unto King Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the Multitude of his Brethren, seeking the Wealth of his People, and speaking Peace to all his Seed.





RULERS and KINGS of the *Hebrew* Nation, from their Deliverance out of *Egypt*, to the *Babylonish* Captivity.

I. MOSES. Being taken out of the Waters by *Pharaoh's* Daughter, is bred up in the Court, and instructed in all the Learning of the *Egyptians*.

When he was forty Years old he quits *Egypt*, and goes into the Land of *Midian*, where he keeps Sheep. After forty Years God appears to him, and commands him to return to *Egypt*, and to demand from the King the Deliverance of the *Israelites*; which *Pharaoh* refusing is punished with ten several Plagues: After many Signs and Miracles wrought by him, the *Israelites* march out of *Egypt*; *Pharaoh* and his whole Army pursuing them, are drowned in the *Red Sea*.

He conducts the *Israelites* forty Years in the Wilderness, who are subsisted every Day by miraculous Bread and Water. He receives the ten Commandments in *Mount Sinai*, his Face is eradiated with Celestial Glory; has only a View of the promised Land from a high Mountain, and dies 120 Years old.

II. JOSHUA is appointed to be Captain of the Lord's Host. He conquers all the Land of *Canaan*, at his Prayer the Sun stands still, he dies in Peace, being 100 Years old.

After *Joshua's* Death, the People falling into Idolatry are first rebuked by an Angel, and severely punished by Invasions from several Nations; but from these

these Oppressions they are delivered by the Judges upon their Supplications to the Almighty.

III. The JUDGES appointed to be the Deliverers of the *Israelites*.

1. *Othniel* from the King of *Mesopotomia*.
2. *Ehud* from the Oppressions of the King of *Moab*.
3. *Shamgar* from the *Philistines*.
4. *Deborah* and *Barak* from *Jabin* King of *Canaan*.
5. *Gideon* from *Zeba* and *Zalmunna* Kings of *Moab*.
6. *Abimelech*.
7. *Tolab*.
8. *Jair* from the *Philistines* and *Ammonites*.
9. *Jephthah* from the *Ammonites*.
10. *Ibsam*.
11. *Elon*.
12. *Abdon*.
13. *Eli*. In the Time of his Priesthood and Government, the Ark is taken by the *Philistines*.
14. *Sampson* destroys great numbers of the *Philistines*, both in his Life, and at the Time of his Death.
15. *Samuel*.

This Government by the Judges continued about 450 Years.

IV. The KINGS.

1. *Saul*. The *Israelites* that they might be like other Nations impatiently desire a King. *Samuel* is ordered to anoint *Saul*, who disobeying the positive Command of God is deserted and left under the Influence of an Evil Spirit. Being vanquished in Battle,

Battle, he attempts to murder himself, and is killed by an *Amalekite*.

2. *David* is appointed to succeed *Saul*. While he is keeping his Father's Sheep, he kills a Lyon and a Bear, and rescues his Lambs. Being animated with a Divine Fortitude, encounters and kills *Goliath*, who had struck a pannick Fear into all the *Hebrew* Army. He is often delivered from the Rage of *Saul*, who endeavoured to destroy him.

After *Saul's* Death he is proclaimed King, subdues all the Nations from the Banks of the *Euphrates* to the Borders of *Egypt*.

His Sin in the matter of *Uriah*, is severely punished by the Rebellion of *Abalom*, and many Disorders in his Family; and his vain Glory in numbring the People by a great Pestilence.

Upon his solemn Repentance he is restored to the Divine Favour, composes the sacred Book of *Psalms*, gives Directions for the building the Temple, for which he leaves to *Solomon* his Son an immense Treasure, and dies, after he had reigned 40 Years.

3. *Solomon* his Successor reigned 40 Years. Is most renowned for his Wisdom, and finishes the Building of the Temple in the 3000 Year from the Creation, reigns many Years in Peace.

But being captivated by the Love of outlandish Women, permits the Idolatry of the Gentiles to be introduc'd; for which he is punished by *Hadad* a fugitive Prince, who conquers part of his Dominions.

And by a Prophet is threatned with the Revolt of the Ten Tribes.

Repenting of his Idolatry, writes the Book of *Ecclesiastes*.

The

**The Division of the Kingdom, *by the*
*Revolt of the Ten Tribes.***

KINGS of Judah.

1. *Reboboam* 13 Years. His Tyranny and Folly occasions the Revolt of the Ten Tribes. The *Egyptian* Army invades his Kingdom. Upon his Humiliation he is delivered.

2. *Abijam* 3 Years. Trusting in God obtains a great Victory over *Jeroboam*, in which 500,000 *Israelites* were slain.

3. *Asha* 41 Years. Suppresseth Idolatry, and imploring the Aid of the Almighty, vanquishes the *Ethiopian* Army, consisting of a thousand thousand.

Being reproved by *Hazani*, for entering into an Alliance with the King of *Syria*, in his Rage imprisons the Prophet, for which he is afflicted with an incurable Disease, and died in the forty first Year of his Reign.

4. *Jebeſhaphat* his Son 25 Years. Walking in the Ways of *David*, enjoys a pro-

KINGS of Israel.

1. *Jeroboam* 22 Years. Sets up the Idolatry of the two Calves at *Dan* and *Bethel*. Is threatened by a Prophet who foretels the Destruction of his whole Family.

2. *Nadab* 2 Years. Is murdered by *Baasha*, who destroys all the Family of *Jeroboam*.

3. *Baasha* 24 Years. Is severely reproved by *Jeſu* the Prophet, who threatens him with the Destruction of his Family.

4. *Elah*, his Son, 2 Years. Is murdered by *Zimri* an Officer in the Army, who destroys the whole Family of *Baasha*.

5. *Zimri* is besieged by *Omri* in *Tirzah*, burns the King's Palace, and perishes in the Flames.

6. *Tibni* and *Omri*. *Tibni* dies, *Omri* reigns 12 Years, builds *Samaria*.

7. *Abab* Son of *Omri* 22 Years. Builds a Temple for *Baal*. The Idolatry

by the Revolt of the Ten Tribes. 681

Judab.

a prosperous Reign, but entering into an Alliance with *Abaziah* King of *Israel*, his Navy is destroyed by a Tempest.

5. *Jehoram* his Son 8 Years. Marries *Atbaliab* the Daughter of *Abab*. He murders all his Brethren, sets up the Idolatry of *Baal*. For these Impieties he is threatened by *Elijah*, his Kingdom is ravaged by the *Philistines* and *Arabians*. The *Edomites* Revolt. He is smitten with an incurable Disease, so that his Bowels fell out.

6. *Abaziah* reigns wickedly 1 Year. Is slain by *Jehu*. After the Death of *Abaziah*, *Atbaliab* his Mother destroys all the Seed Royal, except *Joash*.

7. *Joash* 40 Years. Reigns well all the Days of *Jeboiada*; but hearkening to the Counsel of the Princes, sets up Idolatry.

Zechariah the Prophet denouncing Vengeance against him, is stoned in the Temple. *Joash* is murdered by his Servants.

8. *A-*

Israel.

try of *Abab* is punished by the Want of Rain for above 3 Years.

Elijah is fed by Ravens at *Cherith*. At *Zarephath*, raises from the Dead the Son of a Widow. Upon his Prayer Rain is sent. Fire descends from Heaven upon his Sacrifice. The Priests of *Baal* are destroyed by his Order.

Jezebel the Queen denounces Vengeance against him. *Abab* coveting *Naboth's* Vineyard, orders him to be murder'd, and takes Possession of the Vineyard. *Abab* is slain in Battle.

8. *Abaziah* 2 Years. Reigns wickedly, sends 2 Captains with 50 Soldiers, each to apprehend *Elijah*, who are consumed by Fire from Heaven. By direction of an Angel *Elijah* is sent to *Mount Sini*; is translated to Heaven in a fiery Chariot.

9. *Jehoram* 12 Years. He destroys the Image of *Baal*, obtains by the Prayer of *Elisab* a great Victory over the King of *Moab*.

S f f f

Elisba

682 *The Division of the Kingdom,*

Judah.

8. *Amaziab* 29 Years. He is warned not to enter into any Confederacy with the King of *Israel*. Having vanquished the Army of the *Edomites*, bringeth with him their Gods and worships them; upon which a Prophet is sent to denounce the Divine Vengeance against him. *Jerusalem* is taken by the King of *Israel*. He flies from *Jerusalem*, and is murder'd by his Servants.

9. *Uzziab* or *Azariab* 52 Years. As long as he fought the Lord he was prosperous. Being elated with his Prosperity he presumes to burn Incense in the Temple; for which he is struck with an incurable Leprosy. In his Days there were the following Prophets; 1 *Hosea*. 2 *Joel*. 3 *Amos*. 4 *Isaiah*.

10. *Jotham* 16 Years. Conquers the *Ammonites*, and reigns with great Prosperity, because he prepared his Ways before the Lord his God.

11. *Abaz* 16 Years. Seeing an Altar at *Damascus*, sends

Israel.

Elisba multiplies the Widows Oyl, and raises the *Shunamite's* Son from the Dead. Cures *Naaman* of his Leprosy, and performs many Miracles. Dismissing the Counsel of the *Syrians*, the King sends an Army to take *Elisba*; upon his Prayer they are smitten with Blindness, and led into *Samaria*. After this, *Ben-badad* besiegeth *Samaria*, which is reduced to such Distress by Famine, that Women eat their own Children.

The *Syrian* Army being struck with a Pannick Fear, fly, leaving their Camp standing, with all their Baggage, whereby the People enjoy the great Plenty foretold by *Elisba*.

Jehoram is killed by *Jebu* in the Field of *Naboth*.

10. *Jebu* reigns 28 Years. Orders *Jezebel* to be thrown out of a Window: She is eaten by Dogs as was foretold by the Prophet. He orders 70 of *Abab's* Children to be beheaded, and kills 42 of *Abaziab's* Brethren. Destroys

Judah.

sends the Model of it to *Urijah* the Priest, who sets it up in the Temple: Sacrifices his own Children. For these Impieties he is deliver'd into the Power of the King of *Affyria*, who carries Captive a vast Number of People. His Kingdom is invaded by *Pekab*, who in one Battle kill'd 120,000, and captivated 200,000. Enters into an Alliance with the King of *Affyria*, by which he became greatly distressed.

12. *Hezekiab* 29 Years. Endeavours to reform both Church and State. *Sennacherib* besieges *Jerusalem*, and sends a blasphemous Letter.

Upon *Hezekiab*'s Prayer he is assured by *Isaiab* that the City should be deliver'd: Which was not accomplish'd by any human Means; for upon *Hezekiab*'s Prayer, an Angel destroys 185,000 of the *Affyrian* Army.

Hezekiab falling sick of a Pestilential Disease, is assur'd

Israel.

Destroys the Family of *Abab*, and all the Worshipers of *Baal*, but departs not from the Idolatry of the golden Calves; for which in his Time many Provinces are conquered by the *Syrians*.

11. *Jeboabaz* reigns wickedly 17 Years.

12. *Jeboash* 16 Years. Retakes the Cities conquered by the *Syrians*, as was promised by *Elisba* before his Death.

13. *Jeroboam* the Second 41 Years.

14. *Zachariah* is the fourth and last of *Jebu's* Race. He reigned over *Israel* 6 Months, is murder'd by *Sballum*.

15. *Sballum* 1 Month. Is murder'd by *Menabem*.

16. *Menabem* 10 Years.

17. *Pekaiab* 2 Years. Is murder'd by *Pekab*, an Officer in the Army, in his own Palace.

18. *Pekab* 20 Years. His Kingdom is invaded by the *Affyrians*, who take many Provinces. He is murder'd by *Hoshea*.

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684 The Division of the Kingdom

Judah

assur'd of his Recovery, and that his Life should be prolonged 15 Years; of which he had the Sign of the Sun's going back 10 Degrees. The King of *Babylon* sends Embassadors to congratulate him upon his Recovery and this Miracle; to whom he shews all his Treasures: Whereupon *Isaiab* foretels that these Treasures and all his Family should be carried Captive to *Babylon*.

13. *Manasseh* 55 Years. By his Wickedness the People of *Judah* fall into worse Impieties than those of the Heathens whom the Lord had destroyed; to this he adds the shedding of innocent Blood in great Abundance. The Divine Vengeance falls upon him: Being taken Captive, is carried in Fetters to *Babylon*; where having humbled himself, and praying to the Lord, he is restored to his Kingdom.

14. *Amon* 2 Years. Reigns very wickedly, and is murdered by his Servants.

15. *Jo-*

Israel

19. *Hosea* 9 Years.

Sabmanexer takes *Samarita* after a long Siege, and conquers the whole Countrey, and carries away the *Israelites* Captive, and thereby an End was put to the Kingdom of *Israel*, which had continued 254 Years after the Separation from the Kingdom of *Judah*.

Under which Captivity and Dispersion the Ten Tribes have remained above 2403 Years.

Note, From the Revolt of the Ten Tribes, and setting up the Kingdom of *Israel*, there are 19 Kings in Succession, but of 10 different Families; most of these Kings were murdered by the Officers of the Army, or their Servants.

In the Kingdom of *Judah* there are 19 Kings from the Death of *Solomon*, all of the Royal line of *David*.

by the Revolt of the Ten Tribes. 685

Judab.

15. *Josiah* 31 Years. He endeavours to reform both Priests and People, repairs the Temple, destroys Idolatry, is slain in a Battle by the *Egyptians*.

In his Time lived *Jeremiah* and *Zephaniah*.

16. *Shallum* or *Jeboabaz* 3 Months. Is carried into *Egypt*, where he dies.

17. *Eliakim* or *Jeboiakim* 11 Years. He was carried Captive to *Babylon*, from which the seventy Years of the Captivity are reckoned.

18. *Jeboiachin* called also *Koniab* and *Jecomias*, 3 Months.

19. *Zedekiah* 11 Years. The Kingdom is given him by *Nebuchadnezzar*, from whom he revolts in Violation of his Oath.

After a long Siege *Jerusalem* is taken by the *Chaldeans*. *Zedekiah's* Eyes being put out, is carried in Chains to *Babylon*.

This Captivity happened 468 Years after the Beginning of *David's* Reign, 388 Years after the Revolt of the Ten Tribes, and 134 Years after the Captivity of the Ten Tribes.

After seventy Years, the *Jews* are restored by *Cyrus*, and are under the Government of

Ezra,

Nebemiah, and

Zerubbabel.

The Temple is rebuilt, about 588 Years before the Coming of *Jesus Christ* the *Messiah*.

At the Time of our Saviour's Nativity, the Sceptre was departed from *Judab*, *Herod* an *Edomite* being their King, as was foretold.

The *Romans* take *Jerusalem*, the Temple is burnt. The whole Nation of the *Jews* have now continued about 1600 Years, dispersed over all the World, without King, Priest, Sacrifice, or Image, as was foretold by *Moses* and the Prophets.

The

The CONCLUSION.

1 Chron. xxix. **A**ND David said, Blessed be thou,
Ver. 10. Lord God of Israel our Father,
for ever and ever.

11. *Thine, O Lord, is the Greatness, and the Power, and the Glory, and the Victory, and the Majesty: for all that is in the Heaven, and in the Earth is thine; thine is the Kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as Head above all.*

12. *Both Riches and Honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine Hand is Power and Might, and in thine Hand it is to make great, and to give Strength unto all.*

15. *For we are Strangers before thee, and Sojourners, as were all our Fathers, our Days on the Earth are as a Shadow, and there is none abiding.*

Revel. xv. 3. *And they sing the Song of Moses, saying, Great and Marvellous are thy Works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy Ways, thou King of Saints.*

4. *Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy Name? For thou only art holy: for all Nations shall come and worship before thee, for thy Judgments are made manifest.*

Rom. ii. 33. *O the Depth of the Riches, both of the Wisdom and Knowledge of God, how unsearchable are his Judgments, and his Ways past finding out.*

36. *For of him, and through him, and to him are all Things, to whom be Glory for ever. Amen.*

HALLELUJAH.

E R R A T A.

PAGE 2. v. 4. for dat, r. that. p. 4. Job, v. 6. dele hath. *ibid.* Jer. v. 35. for Waters, r. Waves. p. 5. v. 26. dele own. p. 8. v. 20. dele the. *ibid.* v. 22. for to, r. unto. p. 16. Pet. v. 21. for Resurrections, r. Resurrection. p. 17. v. 6. for were, r. was. p. 26. v. 6. for into, r. unto. *ibid.* for into, r. unto. p. 26. *Acts*, v. 5. r. to him. p. 29. v. 7. dele the Land of. p. 36. v. 16. for there, r. the. p. 37. v. 24. dele shall. *ibid.* v. 27. r. I have. p. 39. Rom. 27. r. the Woman. p. 40. Pet. v. 14. for might, r. may. p. 49. v. 13. r. go fetch. p. 50. v. 30. r. yet scarce. p. 51. v. 43. r. to Haran. p. 53. v. 18. r. that he. p. 60. v. 9. for no one, r. none. p. 61. v. 20. dele in. p. 62. Chap. 40. Contents; for came r. come. p. 64. v. 2. for the, r. a. *ibid.* v. 3. add kine before came. *ibid.* v. 6. for springing, r. sprung. p. 65. v. 14. add in, before unto. p. 69. v. 11. for of, r. in. p. 71. r. v. 1. for v. 7. p. 77. Chap. 47. Contents, for to, r. before. *ibid.* for Egyptian, r. Egyptians. *ibid.* v. 6. for of, r. over. p. 78. v. 12. add all, before his. p. 79. v. 16. for Father, r. Fathers. p. 81. v. 13. for a. r. an. *ibid.* v. 19. r. the last. p. 82. v. 28. for unto, r. unto. p. 115. v. 4. for the, r. his. p. 122. Jobn 6. v. 30. r. dost, before thou. p. 125. Jobn 7. 39. dele Christ. *ibid.* v. 9. for Ends, r. Men. p. 131. *Ephes.* 6. v. 3. for in, r. on. . p. 134. Luke 12. v. 19. for Good, r. Goods. p. 141. v. 9. for they, r. ye. p. 143. Heb. 8. v. 5. for build, r. make. p. 147. *Acts*, v. 38. for that, r. which. p. 149. v. 20. for which, r. that. *ibid.* for strewed, r. strawed. p. 153. v. 1. for breakfast, r. brakest. p. 156. Cor. v. 17. dele the. p. 163. v. 22. for Hands, r. Hand. p. 165. Heb. 10. v. 12. for at, r. on. p. 183. v. 16. for always, r. alway. p. 191. v. 32. r. a great. p. 193. Pet. v. 7. dele that. *ibid.* Rev. v. 21. for on, r. in. *ibid.* *Ephes.* v. 12. dele and. p. 196. Heb. v. 28. for Moses's, r. Moses. p. 199. v. 29. for those, r. these. p. 215. v. 14. dele have. p. 239. v. 20. for your, r. our. p. 240. Rom. v. 3. for doest, r. dost. *ibid.* v. 9. for doeth, r. doth. p. 248. v. 23. for unto, r. to. p. 258. v. 12. for Works, r. Work. p. 289. v. 1. for Moses's, r. Moses. p. 309. v. 19. for others, r. other. p. 311. v. 3. r. hath fought. p. 314. v. 18. for drove, r. drave. p. 363. v. 1. dele I. p. 489. Heb. v. 14. dele the. p. 490. Pj. v. 8. for bring, r. wring. p. 491. Dan. v. 17. for Kingdom, r. Kingdoms. p. 497. Pj. v. 12. r. he is terrible. p. 519. v. 27. for unto, r. to. p. 523. v. 7. for Lives, r. Life. p. 540. add, Hosea against Chap. 4. v. 1. p. 544. v. 18. dele me. p. 548. Chap. 16. v. 3. for Ways r. Way. p. 553. Hosea 4. v. 9. them to be added in. p. 555. Hosea, v. 4. for know, r. knew. p. 557. v. 29. for into, r. to. p. 560. v. 16. for unto, r. into. p. 565. v. 3. for Offering, r. Offerings. p. 570. v. 21. dele of. p. 571. v. 25. dele brought. *ibid.* v. 29. dele ye. *ibid.* v. 31. for Judah r. Jerusalem. p. 577. v. 11. for unto, r. to. *ibid.* If. v. 7. for and, r. for. p. 584. Jer. v. 4. for unto r. to. p. 585. v. 23. for Grave, r. Graves. p. 588. v. 4. for a, r. the. *ibid.* v. 5. for was, r. were. p. 595. v. 6. for Zebediah, r. Zedekiah. p. 597. v. 8. for stand, r. and. p. 598. v. 13. for that, r. which. p. 600. v. 15. for selves, r. Faces. p. 602. v. 12. for away, r. aray. *ibid.* v. 1. for dwelt, r. dwell twice. p. 612. v. 34. for break, r. brake. *ibid.* v. 3. r. all the. *p. 618. v. 18. for declare, r. declare. *ibid.* v. 22. for thou, r. that. p. 624. v. 5. r. find it. p. 625. v. 18. dele in. p. 628, v. 5. for Spirits, r. Spirit. p. 629. v. 68. for this, r. his. p. 631. v. 1. for Treasurers, r. Treasures. p. 635. v. 25. before all, dele and. *ibid.* v. 21. r. our Substance. p. 639. v. 13. r. a time. p. 649. v. 10. dele at. p. 652. v. 29. r. and do. p. 655. v. 13. for to, r. unto. p. 656. v. 23. dele And. p. 660. v. 1. for Hagagite r. Agagite. p. 663. Note, for Christian, r. Antichristian. p. 678. for Taimunna, r. Zalmunna.

